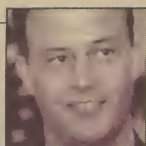


**On the PWA housing front**  
Advocates fight to get \$366,000  
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**Shadows of torture**  
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**'Closet' case**  
Writer-director Francis Veber's  
new French farce opens Friday.  
**see Arts section**



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 26 • 28 June 2001

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971



Patrick Carney

**Afterglow of hillside pink triangle dimmed by assault on gay man**

**S**by David Fraser

Several men attacked a gay San Francisco man helping to dismantle the pink triangle on the Twin Peaks hillside on Pride day, echoing the memories of hatred carried by the symbol.

Two men allegedly punched Hossein Sepas in the face, then one swung a boom box and hit him in the jaw, according to Patrick Carney, Sepas's partner and one of the main organizers of the display, which was installed Saturday, June 23 and dismantled the evening of June 24.

Tourists nearby jumped out of their cars and intervened to protect Sepas as Carney and other helpers raced up the hill to his aid.

"They started calling 911 on their cell phones and talking loudly so the attackers would know they were calling the police," Carney told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "They kept it from escalating because they knew we would protect Hossein."

The attackers, he said, were white men speaking Spanish, but they yelled "faggots" and other epithets in English before attacking Sepas. Altogether four men were threatening Sepas but there were another eight or so who left together and seemed to be "aligned" with the attackers, Carney added.

The first attacker drove off yelling epithets and the others walked down the hill.

Sepas suffered a swollen jaw, split lip  
**page 10 ►**



Rick Gerner

## 'Fight about the soul': U.N. allows gay rights group a voice

**by David Fraser**

In what one delegate called a "fight about the soul of the U.N.," the United Nations General Assembly has allowed an HIV advocate from a major gay rights organization to address the body's special session on HIV/AIDS.

Karyn Kaplan's three-minute speech on Tuesday, June 26, came after the full General Assembly reversed a decision by the official Human Rights Round Table on HIV/AIDS to ban her participation after inviting her organization. Kaplan is the HIV program officer of the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. She works out of New York.

IGLHRC was the only gay/lesbian nongovernmental organization invited to address the Round Table.

"We are satisfied that she managed to speak," Sydney Levy, IGLHRC's communications director, told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "But it's troublesome that it took two hours of the General Assembly's time to decide if she could speak for three minutes. It shows the level of opposition we're facing, not only because of fears of homosexuality but also because of antagonism toward human rights in general by some governments."

"It's troublesome: the U.N. is meeting to decide what to do about HIV/AIDS and how to administer billions of dollars.

### Basic issues

"Karyn spoke for three minutes. Imagine what will happen when we get to really serious issues, like men having sex with men, and HIV prevention."

Controversy over Kaplan's role arose after objections to her speaking came from delegations from Sudan, Syria, Pakistan, Malaysia, Egypt, Libya, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Morocco, Levy said.

The objections reflect efforts by some nations to exclude from the special session's expected draft declaration any mention of men having sex with men, sex workers and their clients, IV drug users, and other groups at higher risk for HIV.

A subsequent motion sponsored by Argentina, Canada, Norway, and the European Union objected to the ban. After nearly three hours of heated debate, IGLHRC said, the General Assembly voted to okay Kaplan's participation by 62 to 0 with 30 abstentions.

Levy said a number of delegations simply did not vote, in hopes of denying a quorum. The vote was eventually ruled valid.

### Norway: Fighting for the soul

At the General Assembly, the Norwegian representative viewed the vote as a "fight about the soul of the U.N.," in order to ensure that the organization remains "open, transparent, and relevant."

He added that cooperation from civil society was particularly important in the battle against HIV/AIDS.

The South African delegate reminded his colleagues that "this is a conference about people who are dying from HIV/AIDS. White, black, gay, straight, this is a disease which knows no boundaries." Despite skyrocketing HIV infection rates, South Africa's president and health minister have been outspoken in questioning whether AIDS is caused by HIV.

Neither South African President Thabo

**page 15 ►**

This year's 31st annual LGBT Pride Parade and celebration was a huge success, according to organizers, as the weekend events on June 23 and 24 drew about 1 million people of all sexual orientations and political persuasions to the hours-long parade along San Francisco's Market Street.

The world-famous parade was as "Queerific" as the theme and got off to a roaring start, literally, with the 500 or so cycles in the Women's Motorcycle Contingent; nearly 200 parade contingents followed, including the grand marshals, politicians gay and straight, numerous community organizations and businesses, and government entities.

Parade organizers were ecstatic with the festivities.

"We think over the course of the weekend there were 1 million people," Pride Committee Executive Director Teddy Witherington told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "There were more people than last year. The event went extremely smoothly. As Pride events go, this was one of the smoothest."

Indeed, judging from the crowd that packed Market Street from Beale to 8th, they

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## Breast friends



Supporters of the Breast Cancer Emergency Fund held a reception last Thursday, June 21 at the Hayes and Vine Wine bar in San Francisco. From left are: Marylane Black, Barbara Brenner, executive director of Breast Cancer Action; BCEF's Karine Arnaldi and Dan Bernal; and AIDS Emergency Fund board President Ralph Petersen. BCEF, a project of AEF, provides emergency financial assistance to those living with the disease. BCEF honored local leaders, including city Treasurer Susan Leal, City Attorney Louise Renne, and Assemblywoman Carole Migden, and thanked their corporate and individual sponsors.

## Charges dropped in attack on lesbian

by David Fraser

The Alameda County District Attorney's office has declined to prosecute a suspect who allegedly kicked and punched an African American lesbian who rejected his propositions at the Juneteenth Festival on June 17 in Berkeley.

Deputy District Attorney Paul Delucchi said he was dropping all charges in the case, but left open the option of reopening it if additional substantive evidence surfaced from witnesses to the attack on Jada Scott in the Ashby BART station parking lot.

Delucchi said he had also dropped all charges against the victim's girlfriend, Michelle Baker, who was arrested when BART police arrived and saw her smashing the suspect's BMW with a child's scooter. Baker's arrest for assault with a deadly weapon was nullified. BART police said she had apparently kicked the suspect in the head. Reports from various sources said one to three men had also come to Scott's aid and pummeled the suspect before disappearing.

Delucchi said that given the evidence presented to him by BART police, who handled the incident, there was little chance of making a criminal case. He indicated that it was more complicated than it appeared on the surface.

Scott said she had been leaving the festival from the parking lot with her two children, aunt, and girlfriend when a man drove up in a BMW and began to proposition her.

She told the *Bay Area Reporter* that she rejected the man's suggestions, telling him, "Listen, we're lesbians, and we're not even interested in men." When he persisted,

they exchanged epithets.

"I thought that was the end of it," Scott said. "But then he parked his BMW and got out and kicked me in the back and punched me in the face.

"My nose split open. My girls were screaming. He was yelling, 'I hate you American bitches, you American dykes.'"

She said the alleged attacker, whom officials confirmed is named Abdullah ben Mohammed, is of Oakland. Mohammed could not be reached by the B.A.R.

Scott, who lives in the East Bay, is the daughter of Wallace Scott, who plays with the R&B band The Whispers.

### Thirty stitches

Scott said the alleged attacker then hit her aunt, injuring her arm, as her hysterical children looked on. Scott was taken to Alta Bates Hospital in Berkeley and treated, receiving 30 stitches for injuries to her nose and face.

During the attack, she said, a man nearby began fighting the attacker to protect her. Her girlfriend, Baker, also fought.

Baker told the B.A.R.: "Once she was hit, her aunt and I started to fight him. He hit me twice ... while I was in jail, I had bruises and my face hurt."

Baker said she was taken to a police facility, searched by a man, and was refused use of the restroom. Later she was transported to the Alameda County jail at Santa Rita and released in the early morning.

BART police took Mohammed to Kaiser Permanente Hospital citing "possible head injuries" but did not arrest him. Detective Christopher Shipley said BART police interviewed the couple, the aunt, and the suspect in the subsequent investigation before sending the report to the District Attorney's office.

He said Mohammed told BART police he was scared he would be attacked by the women in the area near the west exit ramp of the Ashby BART parking area. The hospital trip for head injuries took precedence over detention, Shipley added.

In talking with the B.A.R., Shipley said he was working from mem-

ory as he did not have the police report in front of him. He said he was given the preliminary investigation report from officers early Monday, June 18, reviewed it, and took it "straight to the district attorney."

Scott said she had been interviewed on KMEI radio, provoking numerous people to call in to offer support.

Delucchi, the deputy district attorney, indicated there was concurrence on the description of the attack on Scott, but he hinted that the facts then became muddier.

"That's the bind I'm in," said Delucchi. "If any information comes my way from people at the scene that can clarify things, if someone can tell me other than what I'm being told," the case could be reopened.

So far, he said, he's received no statements from independent witnesses.

Shipley, the investigator, said BART police told him the women had said Mohammed struck them with a Club car locking device, but none was recovered.

### CUAV viewed

Community United Against Violence has taken very different view of the case. Jennifer Rakowski told the B.A.R.: "From our perspective, there has been a complete mishandling of the case regarding the police response and the D.A.'s willingness to investigate evidence.

"We know private citizens took pictures of the assault, and maybe there's BART camera footage. CUAV feels this is a top-priority case, and we're working with the family and community to put pressure on the Berkeley [branch] district attorney and charge this as a hate crime.

"So far, there is evidence of intent based on the suspect's words; he was repeatedly screaming how he hated American dykes and lesbians ... The severity of the injuries [to Scott] points toward it being treated as a hate crime case. We strongly encourage witnesses to come forward." ▽

People with information on the incident can call BART police at (510) 464-7004. CUAV's number is (415) 777-5500.

## Breast Cancer Study

Local community orgs. and Dr. Spiegel's group at Stanford are offering free support groups to women with breast cancer for involvement in a study on coping and stress. All participants receive four months of free support groups and \$40 for 4 assessments over a year. Support groups are held in SF and Walnut Creek.

For more info, call 1-877-447-7457



## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Gay Muslims meet in SF, march in Pride Parade

by Katie Szymanski

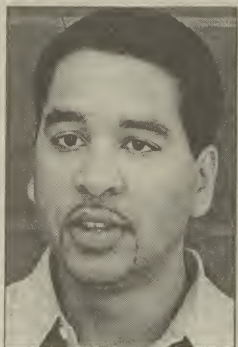
For many participants in last weekend's gay Pride festivities, simply showing up required an act of courage, whether because of family ties or potential discrimination. But perhaps no marchers braved as much as those affiliated with the organization Al-Fatiha; the group consists of openly gay Muslims, a status punishable by death in many of the countries from which they or their parents hail, and an identity that brings with it threats of violence and personal attacks on a daily basis.

"I have to be very careful when I travel," explained Al-Fatiha founder Faisal Alam, who sees his organization's mission as two-fold: helping LGBT Muslims reconcile their faith and sexuality, and assisting Islam in recognizing that there are indeed queers among them.

LGBT people of faith have long marched in opposition to representatives from their respective religions, but last weekend marked the first time that queer Muslims visibly marched in the Pride Parade.

"There have been groups organized by nationality for a long time," explained Alam, "but if you come out as gay, it's expected that you will leave the 'Muslim' part of yourself behind."

Al-Fatiha, which began as an e-mail discussion group in 1997, is the only international gay Muslim support group in the world. It



Faisal Alam of Al-Fatiha

now has nine chapters in North America and the United Kingdom, and an alliance with over 2,000 Muslims who have refused to believe that their sexual orientations are contradictory to passages in the Quran that explicitly forbid homosexuality.

Last week, members of the group converged in San Francisco not only to march but to hold the second North American conference for LGBT Muslims and their friends. Workshops included strategies for addressing mainstream Muslims, issues facing Muslim women, sexual ethics for LGBT Muslims, and human rights in Islamic countries. Somewhat disturbingly, although Al-Fatiha openly condemns discrimination within the justice system and opposes the death penalty as it relates to LGBT Muslims ("It is car-

ried out with very little evidence," explained Alam), it does not have a position on capital punishment.

The group has members who have joined for social support, and others who have joined for activist reasons, which makes a uniform political stance difficult, according to one member who also works for the human rights organization Amnesty International.

"But there is a growing movement from within the group to take a stand against it," said Alam.

Over 150 members of Al-Fatiha were in the city under the mission to reclaim their faith and reignite their spirit, despite the calls for their execution in various regions around the world. Muslim is, in fact, more important to most of the members than their homosexuality, and they remain fiercely loyal to the faith, regardless of how it may treat them: the white men who visit the group's on-line message board in their fetish-driven attempts to get lucky get nowhere, and a Muslim-born Jew looking for community was condemned on-line as a "loser" for converting.

But throughout all the struggles of sex and religion that can sometimes get messy, Al-Fatiha's members are determined to prove that "gay" and "Muslim" are not contradictions.

As one member said, "I have come to believe that my being gay is not the biggest sin in Islam." ▽

For more information, visit [www.al-fatiha.net](http://www.al-fatiha.net).

## Carmichael sentencing set for Friday

by Cynthia Laird

Gay, HIV-positive prison rights activist Brian Carmichael, who has been in the Santa Clara County jail since his arrest last September and his subsequent conviction on a felony battery charge, faces a possible three-strikes sentence of 25 years to life this Friday, June 29 in San Jose.

The case against Carmichael stems from an incident that occurred at San Jose International Airport last September as Carmichael stepped off an airplane. Police were waiting at the airport to talk to Carmichael, who while on the airplane in Dallas, got into an argument with a passenger who was occupying a seat Carmichael had been told was reserved for his severely ill brother.



Brian Carmichael

During a scuffle after Carmichael got off the plane, he fell on a police officer, who reported that he suffered an injury as a result. Carmichael has raised questions

as to whether the officer was injured during the scuffle, and maintains that if the officer was injured at all, it was a result of trying to carry a wheelchair police had placed Carmichael in after he was detained and officers were taking him to Valley Medical Center for a drug test, which Carmichael passed.

Carmichael has been struggling to fight his January conviction in Santa Clara County Superior Court, but Judge Alden E. Danner is expected to pass judgment and sentencing this Friday. During court appearances over the last several months, Carmichael has attempted to get the judge to reduce the felony conviction to a misdemeanor, which Danner can do, but only at the time of sentencing. Danner has not given an indication of

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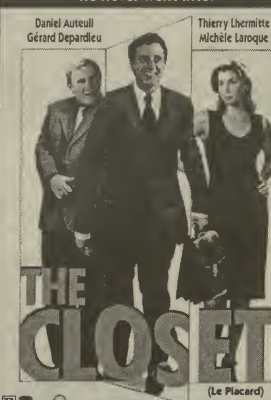
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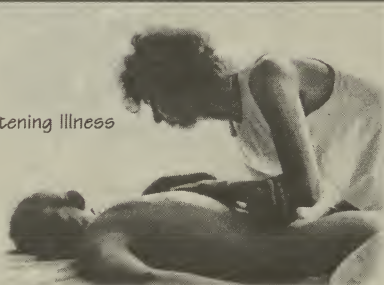
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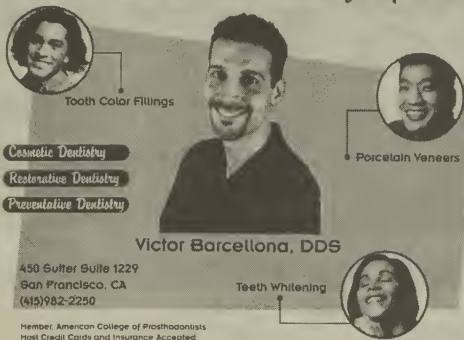
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## Shame

by Jane Warner

**1** 8th and Collingwood, June 25, 12:55 a.m.: A large street fight involving more than 30 people broke out in the middle of 18th and Collingwood early Monday morning, putting a disruptive end to the Pride festivities. Seven police cars responded to the scene and officers arrested one suspect after observing him stomping on the leg of a man who was lying in the street. Also reported during the rumble were several underage teenagers who rushed the door of the Pendulum bar, but were held by door personnel until police arrived. In total, three people were arrested and transported to Mission Station. There were no reports of serious injuries.

## Vengeance

Sterling Bank, 2122 Market Street, June 23, 11:35 p.m.: Two men entered the after-hours lobby of the bank to use the ATM machine. A short time after, the two began to argue. A wrestling match ensued and both men rolled around the floor, throwing bank slips at one another. A crowd gathered on the sidewalk to watch, and someone called 911. Responding police found the lobby covered with banking slips and the security gate vandalized. A witness pointed across the street to the

suspects who were still arguing. The pair was detained but declined to press charges against each other; however, both men were cited for vandalism and released at the scene.

## Greed

Ord and Market, June 23, 9:30 a.m.: Two women were walking down the public staircase leading from Market to Ord Street when a man suddenly came from behind and grabbed one of the women by the hair. The assailant dragged the woman kicking and screaming 20 feet into a nearby car-

port as the woman's friend attempted to fight the attacker by punching and kicking him. The suspect, seemingly unaffected by the blows, went through the woman's pants pockets and took \$30, then released the woman and walked back toward Market Street. The women ran to a nearby coffee shop and called 911. Police found the suspect a short distance away. The 37-year-old man was taken to Mission Station where he was booked for strong-arm robbery and parole violation. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.



## Crime &amp; Punishment

## GLSEN offering youth grants for Sept. conference

by David Fraser

**T**he Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network is offering scholarships for youth age 23 and under who want to attend "Teaching Respect for All 2001," an annual national conference to be held September 21-23 in Washington, D.C.

The deadline for all applications is Tuesday, July 17.

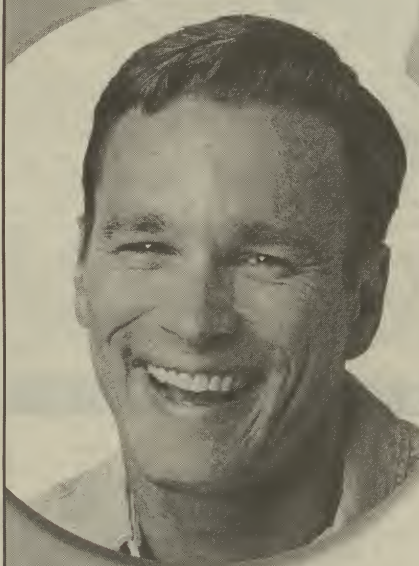
The organization said that over the past three years, the scholarships have defrayed the expenses

of more than 300 young people. The conference offers three days of workshops, networking opportunities, and events.

Teaching Respect for All, now in its fifth year, has become a key gathering for those interested in eliminating anti-gay bias in K-12 schools. The 2000 conference offered more than 60 workshops, some designed specifically for youth, and included more than 1,000 participants.

"I met the most amazing youth leaders who were taking the Day

next page ►

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# Early hibernation for Bear Store

by Katie Szymanski

**O**n a typical day in the South of Market District, one can watch the distinct shift in the faces of heterosexual tourists as they pass by what they think is going to be a store for stuffed animals, only to find themselves in the land of fetish gear.

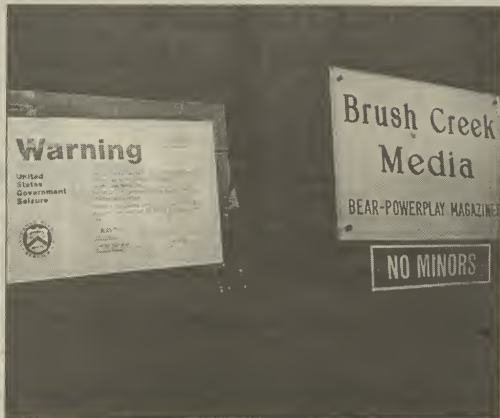
The Bear Store, at 367 9th Street, has served this purpose well, but has also provided an invaluable resource to the community with its sale of bear culture paraphernalia and products from its corporate parent Brush Creek Media. But the window displays haven't changed much lately, and no customers have walked through the company's doors in more than a week.

"Warning," reads a sign posted outside the gateway to gay male wilderness, "this property has been seized for nonpayment of internal revenue taxes."

The posting is signed by the United States government, and IRS agents shamelessly descended upon the store to close its doors last Wednesday, June 20, just days before the largest LGBT Pride celebration in the city's history.

The IRS would not comment on its closure of Brush Creek Media's Bear Store, but public records indicate that the shop's troubles seem to have started recently, with the first federal tax lien issued on January 31, 2001. At that time, the company owed \$35,257, according to records. By the time another lien was issued on May 31, that balance had climbed to \$54,028.

Optimistic rumors circulating within the community have pre-



The IRS closed down Brush Creek Media, home of the Bear Store, last week.

dicted the store's reopening soon, but the *Bay Area Reporter* was un-

able to locate any of its owners or staff for comment. ▼

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*Harvey Woodmansee*  
Harvey Woodmansee, Store Director

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## GLSN

◀ previous page

of Silence Project into their schools, to create real change from within the school system," said Jessie Gilliam, 23, presenter last year of the Day of Silence workshop.

"The conference was awesome because it provides for opportunities like these, where youth teach other youth, through sharing resources, presenting workshops, and just telling each other what does and doesn't work for each of their schools."

This year's confab will include youth-only spaces and a youth dance.

"GLSEN stands by the efforts that youth are making across this country to eliminate bias against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons in K-12 schools," said Executive Director Kevin Jennings. "As a community-based organization, GLSEN and its chapters have found strength when working together, whether it's teachers, administrators, parents, taxpayers, or especially, students."

GLSEN is the largest national organization working to end anti-gay bias in schools. Established nationally in 1995, it has become a leading voice for equality and safety in schools. ▼

Scholarship applications are available on the GLSEN Web site, [www.glsen.org](http://www.glsen.org), or by calling (212) 727-0135, ext. 134.



## BAY AREA REPORTER

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## OPEN FORUM

## Scouting still isn't for all

It was one year ago today – June 28, 2000 – that the U.S. Supreme Court issued its decision in *Boy Scouts of America v. Dale*, which allows the youth organization to freely discriminate against gay troop leaders. The Scouts also actively work to keep gay youth out of scouting, citing their vaguely defined “morally straight” code. Gays can be just as “morally straight” as anyone else.

The national Boy Scouts leadership has sullied the reputation of this youth organization by upholding the anti-gay rhetoric of the far right. It used to be that just about everyone loved the Boy Scouts; not anymore. In the 12 months since the high court's ruling, more and more people – gay and straight – have taken exception to the anti-gay policies espoused by the Boy Scouts. Some parents have pulled their boys out of scouting, preferring to enroll them in the Camp Fire program, which does not discriminate. Today the anti-gay policies of the organization are front and center, which is where they should be; everyone must know that the discrimination endorsed by this group is wrong and needs to be eliminated.

Far from settling the matter, last year's 5-4 decision has resulted in an unprecedented backlash against the organization and widespread calls for the Boy Scouts of America to overturn its discriminatory policy. Numerous corporate donors have dropped financial support for the Boy Scouts. Numerous schools and religious denominations have prohibited the Scouts from meeting on their property, citing non-discrimination laws with which these entities must comply that prohibit groups with discriminatory policies from using their facilities. Of course, the recent amendment to the president's education bill by Senator Jesse Helms that would withhold money from school districts that refuse to allow the Boy Scouts to meet only adds to the anti-gay rhetoric, and may mean that some school districts would have to violate their own anti-discrimination laws or face losing much-needed federal funds.

The group Scouting for All, which started well before the Supreme Court ruling, has become much more visible, thanks to

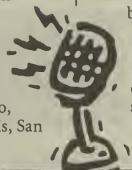
demonstrations it has led at the national Boy Scouts headquarters in Texas and a documentary film, *Scout's Honor*, that aired this month on PBS and has been shown at film festivals. Others involved in scouting have also been working from within to get the anti-gay policy changed. Councils in several cities and counties, including Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, Minneapolis, San Francisco, and, even that bastion of conservatism, Orange County, have petitioned the national organization to drop the ban.

James Dale, the gay troop leader who was booted from the Boy Scouts after it was learned he is gay, has continued speaking out on the ban. “The Scouts may have won at the Supreme Court, but their victory is being overturned in the court of public

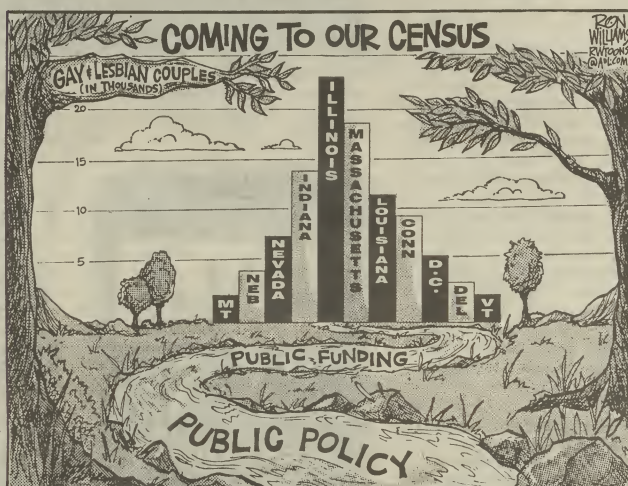
opinion,” Dale has said.

The Boy Scouts of America has an opportunity to do the right thing and drop its unfair anti-gay ban on leaders and members. Thousands of gay youth could potentially benefit by participating in scouting, which teaches many valuable skills. Unfortunately, by holding on to its anti-gay policy, the Scouts are sending the wrong message to youth – gay and straight – by sanctioning hatred and discrimination.

Corporations should continue to withhold financial support from the Scouts. Fair-minded individuals and politicians should continue to speak out against the ban. The Boy Scouts of America turned this issue into a national one with its stubborn refusal to free itself from discriminatory practices; and it can end the controversy by abolishing its ban against gays. ▼



## Editorial



## It's a small world

by Boyce Hinman

Once I lived in a small apartment with thin walls. The neighbors on the other side of my living room wall argued a lot and one of them was an accomplished dish thrower. Many times I ducked when sitting in the living room as a dish crashed against the wall behind my head. The lesson to be learned? We live in a small world and the pain of others can directly affect our own serenity and safety.

In May, Lambda Letters Project issued 24 e-mail alerts urging people to send e-mail messages to legislators in support of bills being tracked by Lambda Letters. Less than half of the alerts were on bills pertaining to HIV/AIDS or lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender rights. Lambda Letters' Web site (www.lambdaletters.org) lists 73 bills that the project is tracking. We have actively supported many of the listed bills. However, barely a third of the bills relate to HIV/AIDS or LGBT rights.

Periodically, I receive complaints from people who think Lambda Letters is “wasting too much time on issues that don't relate to our community.” I think it's time to discuss that issue again.

Why does Lambda Letters spend so much time on women's issues and issues of concern to people of color? There are several reasons. The bills of importance to those groups have a direct effect on the health and well-being of women and minorities. And the welfare of others can have a direct effect on the lives of people in the LGBT community. For example, assuring that immigrants get a good education, including a quality college education (at California's public colleges and universities if necessary), means that more of them will become highly paid professionals and fewer will end up as low paid agricultural workers or waiters and

waitresses. High paid workers pay more taxes and that means more money will be available to fight AIDS and to offer domestic partner benefits to state and local government employees.

Obviously, many in the LGBT community are women or minorities. They may be queer and care about queer issues, but they also care about issues that affect them as women and minorities. Lambda Letters needs all the help it can get to assure the needs of the LGBT community are met by our elected officials. If working on women's and minority issues brings in more loyal supporters, then that's a good way of meeting our responsibility to the LGBT community.

Another fundamental answer is that there are simply fewer HIV/AIDS and LGBT bills in the Legislature than there are on women's issues and issues of concern to people of color. That results from at least two factors. First of all, there are only four out queer legislators in our Legislature. There are 23 Latino/Latina legislators, six African American legislators, and 33 women legislators. They naturally introduce legislation of interest to their communities. For Lambda Letters to support more LGBT bills there need to be more bills on those subjects introduced. And that probably requires the election of more LGBT people to the state Legislature.

These numbers also indicate another reason to support bills of concern to women and people of color. It takes 41 votes for a bill to pass in the Assembly and 21 votes in the Senate. Obviously we need help from straight allies in the Legislature. It's reasonable to expect they would want us to support their bills in return for their support of our bills.

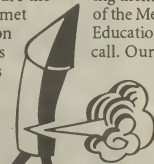
That same reasoning applies to support

from outside the Legislature as well. In February we reached the last day on which bills could be introduced. We still had not found a legislator willing to introduce our bill to ban discrimination against transgendered people, in spite of the fact that Lambda Letters and the California Alliance For Pride and Equality had been working hard to get it introduced. I called several lobbying groups asking them to call legislators urging them to introduce the bill. The lobbyist of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund was one of those who did call. Our bill was introduced and her call may have been part of the reason it was. I am sure that our years of support of the bills of importance to Latinos and Latinas helped persuade her to make the calls.

A second reason for the lower number of HIV/AIDS and LGBT bills is that, despite our community's reputation as a formidable political force, we actually have relatively little political clout in Sacramento and on political affairs in general. That fact is illustrated by our loss last year on Proposition 22 (the anti-gay marriage initiative) and the fact that the governor signed only one gay rights bill last year. That was a minor bill that protected queer people's right to serve on juries. Governor Davis vetoed all the other queer rights bills that reached his desk last year.

In the end, all the bills Lambda Letters supports are important. Some of them don't relate specifically to LGBT issues or HIV/AIDS, but they do affect the lives of many women and people of color. We do live in a small world. The suffering of others does affect the safety and serenity of all our lives. It is important to vigorously support legislation in all of the areas addressed by Lambda Letters. ▼

## Guest Opinion





## LETTERS

## Too many gaps in parade

In a general way, San Francisco is considered by the majority of Americans as the gayest city anywhere. Perhaps this is true. There certainly are lots of gays and lesbians here and we should be rightly proud of that.

But I saw a sad thing on Pride day; if we're so gay-rich and seem to take pride in it and show it off for all the world to see, why was this year's parade so disastrously slow and gap-filled? It's estimated that there were a million spectators lining the parade route. Like never before (in my experience, anyway), there was an incredible energy and buzz in the crowd; everyone was friendly, cordial, and were waiting, wanting to have a great time and enjoy the show. How sad that the expectation and excitement turned to frustration and anger due to the enormous gaps between contingents in the parade.

If we're the center of the gay universe, it seems we should do a better job. I can't even begin to estimate how many instances I saw and heard of people getting fed up with the waiting and leaving. The parade committee should be very apologetic to the public — a public that wanted to be part of a huge, well-oiled event and was willing to give a deal of leeway to the parade and its organizers, but was, in essence, slapped in the face by what seemed to be an overweening desire to be on Channel 20's camera. Yes, being telecast is important and we need to get every moment of exposure into the American household; equally (if not more) important are the people who cared and were interested enough about the event to get to the parade, despite the difficulty with traffic jams and parking. A perfect example of how ill-informed and ignorant the parade committee seems to be is the rule (theirs? the city's?) that, even one half hour before the parade begins, there are woefully few street crossing areas along the parade route (these are generally at subway stations).

With 1 million people lining a street, some other better solution should be found. An example of the inadequate preparations for something like this is having one (poor, harried) volunteer who is expected to man an entire city block and prevent people from jumping or moving barricades in order to cross. Even the police were unable to deal effectively with the problem — a problem that really was unnecessary, if only the committee had included more crossing points.

Granted, planning such an event is no easy task and it's evident that the committee did a good job of putting this year's event together, but it fell far short of being the kind of spectacle that would be expected of our über-gay town. It almost seemed as if the planners had forgotten about the people lining the route.

As for the unforgivable gaps between contingents, could the committee explain why there was no better monitoring to ensure a smooth, less gap-filled procession? We stood on Market Street from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. and saw less than one-third of the parade! Typical of our experience was this: a contingent, a 10 minute gap, a contingent, a 15 minute gap, two contingents and another 10 minute gap? Is this acceptable to the committee? Even my small Texas hometown was able to produce a more exciting parade. In addition, so does Sydney. So does New York, L.A., Chicago, Toronto, and Houston. Saddest of all was the fact that a medical emergency in our area provided much more engaging activity than the parade. If the planners are so enamored of having a television camera capture the whole event, then hold the parade in a studio and let the contingents pass by and then edit out the embarrassing gaps — that would show sensitivity and concern for the television viewers (a ridiculous suggestion). But if they insist on gathering people along a street to watch, then a much better showing is expected than the travesty we were subjected to this past Pride day. After all, why are you throwing a parade in the first place — for television? For your own satisfaction? How about because you have a duty to the gathered throngs — a duty to make the parade better next time.

C.S. White  
San Francisco

## This is 'Queerific'?

Homeless people selling water to tourists who are watching corporate America march to a festival where straight people sell \$6 hot dogs. This is Queerific? It makes me sad.

Phil Siegel  
San Francisco

## The bloated celebration

At one time the parade was small and purposeful. We marched as activists determined to secure civil rights and personal respect; the post-parade celebration took place in Marx Meadow in Golden Gate Park and was quiet and congenial with picnicking on the grass.

In time, we secured our civil rights here in San Francisco and elsewhere, and now the parade has become a bloated monster and the celebration has be-

come an outdoor trade show hawking alcohol and rainbow trinkets. Seniors are effectively shut out through insensitivity to their needs and personal contribution to the gay rights struggle. They are living with disabilities now, with some in wheelchairs. Tokenism is the hallmark of the current parade and celebration managed by people making a living and producing an obscene "Super Bowl" that is no different than a football championship. Individuals who do not march observe from the sidewalk just as any other tourist might do.

Marching in the parade used to mean something, now we are simply fodder for a commercial and exploitative mega operation. It is time to shut the monster down and return to the simpler and more personal gathering of gay men and lesbians coming together as a community not as a commodity to be exploited.

At one time we rubber-stamped our currency with the words "gay money," now the program resembles a telephone book and the straight newspapers as well as the B.A.R. stand to make money from the advertising that exploits us. Yes, I am angry and disappointed that our struggle has culminated in this obscene mega production, known as Pride weekend. Even the gay band has been sandwiched in the middle of the parade rather than leading off right behind the motorcycles of the "Dykes on Bikes" or as it is officially known, the Women's Motorcycle Contingent, which was originally designed to clear the street and has now become another San Francisco curiosity like the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. It is time to boycott this commercial exploitation and the people and corporations that care not for our health, welfare, or freedom but care only for our money. It is out of control.

John Cailleau  
San Francisco

## Queer performers thank S.F. Pride

As out queer performers, we'd like to publicly express our appreciation to the San Francisco Pride Committee, who this year implemented a new, more queer-inclusive entertainment hiring policy.

SFLGBTCC Executive Director Teddy Witherington met with several local artists last fall to get our input on forming a new policy that would pay fees to all performers, and would emphasize hiring LGBT artists.

Thank you Teddy, and the S.F. Pride Committee, for providing us the opportunity to show that we can do it for ourselves! We're hopeful that other Pride organizations will follow your lead.

Mark Weigle  
The Kinsey Sicks  
Veronica Klaus

## Ashamed, not proud

I am appalled and not alone in opposing the use of the word queer that was used in this year's parade. We, the older generation, worked very hard to pave the road for the younger gay generation of today. We have taken bashing, discrimination, and some have even lost their lives against those who called us queer. How dare the younger generation take what we have built up for them and toss it back in our faces. We have gone through hell for the younger generation so they can have their freedom and pride. This is the way they show their appreciation? They are reversing everything we worked to stop. Even the show *Queer as Folk* is an abomination against us. It makes those people who call us queer and those who hate us to confirm what they think and believe about the way we are.

I say: no more. Queer is out or it will be time for us who killed ourselves to stop the name-calling of queers to step back in. We are gay or homosexual. Have you even bothered to look up the word queer in the dictionary? How can you be proud to be called queer? I would be ashamed, not proud.

Jim Forster  
San Francisco

## Auntie advises 'middles'

At 47, typical "Midlife Joe" can't stand being called "geezer," yet cannot invent a polite term for middle-aged persons [Mailstrom, June 21]. How about "middles"?

He feels rejected by 30-somethings, yet he can't "identify with" 60-year-olds. He thinks he's in "the prime" of life, yet he's "starving for social events." In short, he personifies millions of his peers.

I've been there myself, practicing elaborate self-deceptions and denials until my 53rd birthday — when I woke up, painfully, and started saying "I'm old. Now what?" Until then, I had tried to imagine myself being somehow exempt from old age, as do so many fellow elders, perhaps most of us.

One's 40th birthday (or one's 30th?) should provoke self-questioning: How do strangers see me? How do acquaintances or friends see me? How do I per-

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## Mailstrom

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ceive others of my own chronological age? How "imagist" am I? How ageist am I? How dare I ask anyone to be less imagist or less ageist than I am? Do I care about my fellow victims of ageism, or just about myself? If I can't value my peers, who can value me? What can I do to reduce the loneliness felt by so many of my age-peers, and by those who have lived even longer? (There are no easy answers; indeed, these questions raise ever more.)

Meanwhile, I hope Joe attended the Geezer's Ball on June 18, despite its radically transgressive name; and I hope he'll search for groups, online and off, which accept middies/elders (code phrase: "Adults of all ages are welcome"). For more info, e-mail Senior Unlimited Nudes at seniornude@prodigy.net.

And he's invited, along with open-minded adults of all ages, to help me celebrate my 59th voyage around the sun, at Baker Beach on July 4, "Nude Freedom Day."

"Auntie" Tortuga Bi Liberty  
San Francisco

## Appreciates arts coverage

I just picked up the gay Pride issue of the B.A.R. and once again felt appreciative of the visual arts coverage for the Bay Area. Every week there is attention to exhibitions that are worth seeing, and may just need an informed art critic to educate folks about the current scene.

There are many galleries and alternative spaces in the Bay Area that are showing challenging and interesting work, but often are overlooked by the daily papers. It's nice to know that if a space is showing worthwhile work, there is a pretty good chance that Will Shank or Roberto Friedman will show up to at the very least check it out. And actually there are many artists that simply want their work seen.

Sheila Cohen  
San Francisco

## More gained than lost

This is regarding last week's open letter to SFPD Chief Fred Lau [Mailstrom, June 21]. While I empathize with the discrimination faced by the trans community and understand that much of this is by police here and elsewhere, I do not feel this specific request for the SFPD not to participate in the Pride Parade is the most effective action to improve the situation.

There are many straight and LGBT SFPD members who do not discriminate or harass trans folks or anyone for that matter. To stereotype the whole group is just as wrong as our community being stereotyped by those in our LGBT community who are racist, discriminatory, prejudiced, criminal, etc.

Solidarity, tolerance, and diversity are important elements to the Pride Parade. It is in our community's best interest to have more LGBT folks on the SFPD force and I feel their participation in the parade helps promote recruitment. It also helps community relations between the SFPD and the LGBT community. I seriously doubt that anyone on the SFPD force who chooses to march in the parade is the same person(s) who discriminates against us.

Additionally, I have friends who are LGBT on the SFPD force and I know they work hard behind the scenes to educate other "unenlightened" officers. They face discrimination by their peers on a daily basis and I feel the SFPD's participation in the parade is a positive action for the public to see that there are LGBT officers who may save their life one day. It is also empowering for these SFPD marchers to have their one day to be publicly recognized for their work in a field that has been traditionally shut out to LGBT people.

In short, I feel there is more to be gained than lost by the SFPD's participation. I'm open to more dialogue on this to better understand your strategy.

Keep up the great work in your other efforts on behalf of the trans community and happy Pride.

Gary L. Virginia, Member  
SF Human Rights Commission  
LGBT Advisory Committee

## Pot study as 'junk science'

The results of Dr. Murray Mittleman's study linking marijuana and heart attacks are hardly newsworthy ["Pot raises heart attack risk, study says," June 14]. The flaws are readily apparent to anyone with a basic understanding of research methods. The sample size is statistically insignificant, no casual relationship has been established, and the study itself has never been replicated. Out of 3,882 patients who had heart attacks, 124 were current cannabis smokers and nine had smoked within an hour of their heart attack. Based on this minuscule, self-selected sample, Dr. Mittleman concludes that the risk of a heart attack is 4.8 times higher after smoking cannabis. Assuming the Dr. Mittleman's conclusions are accurate, the fact that heart attack risk for an otherwise healthy 50-year-

old man is about 10 in 1 million highlights the sensationalism of the widespread publicity the study is receiving. Such junk science is routinely funded by the United States government and well-publicized. Millions have been spent trying to find harm in a relatively harmless plant. Regardless of whether or not the study in question is ever replicated and subjected to peer review, the results will no doubt be repeated by drug warriors for decades.

The goal of a "drug-free" America that so many politicians claim to be working toward applies only to certain drugs. Specifically, natural drugs that cannot be patented by the pharmaceutical industry, one of Washington's most powerful lobbies and a primary funder of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America. New lifestyle drugs are routinely granted fast-track government approval by the Food and Drug Administration, while marijuana, which has been used medicinally for thousands of years, allegedly requires further research. Despite a relatively brief period on the market, the blatantly recreational drug Viagra has already killed more people than marijuana, a relatively harmless drug compared to toxic alcohol and highly addictive tobacco. Nationwide, cancer and AIDS patients are being locked up at taxpayers' expense for using medical marijuana, while 2-year-olds are prescribed Ritalin. So much for protecting the children from drugs. One need only follow the money trail to find out why a given policy exists.

Robert Sharpe, M.P.A.  
Program Officer  
The Lindesmith Center-Drug Policy Foundation  
Washington, D.C.

## Courageous vote

The recent vote by the Board of Supervisors to regulate TICs as condos was courageous in the face of the tremendous opposition put forth by a real estate lobby that makes huge profits evicting seniors, people with AIDS, people of color, and others in San Francisco.

Now, Mayor Willie Brown, who has not been a friend to low-income folks since he took office five years ago, is threatening to veto. With the support of the eight supervisors who voted for it, that veto is no threat — provided, of course, that the eight supes maintain their commitment to ending evictions and to protecting seniors and other low-income folks.

I especially thank Mark Leno as my supervisor in District 8 for voting for this legislation and hope that he stands up to Brown's attempt to veto. As a grand marshal in the parade, Leno can give us the best Pride present we've had in a long time: protection from speculators who steal our homes to increase their profits.

Tommi Avicelli Mecca  
San Francisco

## Dalai Lama revisited

This is to correct several errors in Robert V. Wood's reply [Mailstrom, June 7] to "The Dalai Lama: An update" [Guest Opinion, May 24].

First, the Dalai Lama consistently and correctly refers to the Buddha as the historical reference for all Buddhists. Therefore, in our 1997 meeting with him, it was indeed necessary to ask him where and when the Buddha himself is reported to have given the controversial teachings on "wrong partners and organs" for sexual expression. Wood correctly agrees that the Buddha made no such statement.

The Five Traditional Precepts to which Woods refers — including Right Sexual Conduct — are somewhat subject to interpretation by various Buddhist teaching lines. Unfortunately, the "wrong sex" teachings which the Dalai Lama presents are found in all four main Tibetan teaching lineages, and Theravada or Old School teachings as well. The Dalai Lama has the unfortunate habit of presenting his version of the teachings in question as the Buddhist teachings and viewpoint, incorrectly speaking for all Buddhists.

The Dalai Lama is not a Buddhist pope and certainly carries no "Dalai infallibility," — thank Buddha! He is also not the head of the Yellow Hat Sect, as Woods asserts. He is in fact not the spiritual head of any one Tibetan sect, per se, though a member of the Yellow Hats or Gelugs. Ganden Tri Rinpoche is the official spiritual head of the Gelugs. As a politician, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and prolific author, the Dalai Lama is the most high-profile, well-known, and influential Buddhist monk in the world.

In presenting his view of "wrong sex" as the Buddhist view, without qualification for historical time, context, or his own very relative authority, the Dalai Lama alienates prospective sexual minority Buddhists from exploring very practical and helpful teachings of the Buddha and marginalizes Buddhist sexual minorities and others already practicing. The Dalai Lama's consistent public teachings on "wrong sex" may be easily and sadly regarded as "spiritual violence" and "harmful behavior," not to mention "wrong speech" from the perspective of the Buddha.

Steve Peskind  
San Francisco



## POLITICS

# Davis winning the energy crisis PR battle

by Wayne Friday

California's long hot summer is still before us and there will very likely be days of rolling blackouts and possibly even higher electricity bills before the summer is over, but despite what some refer to as "inaction" by Governor **Gray Davis** and others for being too cautious, Davis, in particular, might just be turning the corner on the crisis, which he did not create.

Indeed, despite the criticism of former Governor **Pete Wilson** that Davis's "inaction allowed a problem to become a crisis," it was, of course, Wilson and his Public Utilities Commission appointees, backed by the Legislature - a Republican Assembly and a Democratic Senate - that enacted the misguided deregulation system five years ago that eventually resulted in the current energy mess.

Back in 1996, Wilson and the Legislature blindly passed the bill that created the fatally flawed system of pricing electricity power. That legislation, dreamed up in large part with the help of state Senator **Steve Peace** (D-El Cajon), was written largely by lobbyists for affected interest groups and then presented to the Legislature where it was quickly passed

without a single dissenting vote even though few, if any, lawmakers even dreamed of its future ramifications. As the *Sacramento Bee* put it recently, the 1996 vote by the Legislature "was a huge failure of the legislative process, virtually a dereliction of duty, and those who participated have been doing some fancy explaining ever since."

Little wonder then that the current Legislature is nervous as hell about approving the latest plan that Davis has worked out with Southern California Edison to keep that utility from joining PG&E in bankruptcy. From the beginning, Davis has consistently asked for price controls. Though the Bush administration, including **George W. Bush** himself and the other millionaire energy allies including, but not limited to **Dick Cheney**, have resisted any kind of price controls, the recent move by federal regulators to enact broad electricity price controls in the West has at least temporarily relieved much of the growing political pressure on Davis.

Indeed, satisfied that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has finally taken "a giant step forward" in curbing California energy prices, Senator **Dianne Feinstein**, one of the leading proponents for price controls, withdrew her legislation to enact price caps on wholesale electricity throughout the entire West. Although a hard-hitting GOP-sponsored TV ad that has run in California the past two weeks blamed Davis for "failing to act quickly when the crisis first emerged," FERC commissioners were ordered to a hearing by Senator **Joseph Lieberman** (D-Connecticut), the new Democratic chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee, to determine if the commission has lived up to its legal obligations to



Riding in the Pride Parade were Police Commissioners Dennis Herrera and Wayne Friday.

ensure "just and reasonable" electricity prices in California.

The commission then promptly called a meeting last week and took stronger action - it expanded existing electricity price controls around the clock to 11 Western states. Under the commission's plan, ceiling prices will be set that suppliers can exceed only as long as they provide justification for the higher price.

The Bush White House, which has long opposed any form of price controls (not wanting to appear weak to their Texas oil backers) moved quickly to adjust to this political reality, promptly putting out a statement that read, "to the degree that this is a market-based program, this is in keeping with what the president has said, and the president is pleased to be able to help California in that manner; it does not, however, change the president's fundamental view that a separate economic matter, which would be price controls, would not be productive."

So, while Davis, having inherited the energy mess in the first place, might have moved a bit more swiftly rather than allowing the out-of-state power companies to take advantage of the flawed system in gouging Californians for billions as the feds merely watched, he has stepped up to the plate and the guy is beginning to look good - or at least better - in the crisis.

## Politics and people

Sunday's huge Pride Parade was one of the best ever and the committee that worked so hard to pull it off deserves high praise - well done. Politicos riding in the parade were greeted well and the loudest ovations went to grand marshal **Mark Leno**, grand marshal **Carole Migden**, Board of Supes Prez **Tom Ammiano**, Treasurer **Susan Leal**, Supervisor **Gavin Newsom**, Assemblyman **Kevin Shelley**, and Police Commissioner/city attorney candidate **Dennis Herrera**.

How not to make new friends and lose those you already have: First, Assemblywoman **Carole Migden** turns on longtime loyal supporter/friend **Mark Leno** by endorsing his opponent in next year's Assembly primary (and turns off many of her own supporters in the process) and then on Sunday, Migden has one of As-

semblyman **Kevin Shelley's** Democratic primary opponents for secretary of state ride with her in the parade. Go figure. Further, Migden snubbed Saturday night's big HRC dinner and Sunday morning's annual **Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club** pre-parade breakfast, where an obviously embarrassed aide filled in for her "explaining" that Migden "was up till three this morning passing the budget," a ruse that brought snickers from the crowd since everyone in the room knew that the budget was passed early Saturday morning (by the way, Shelley, the Assembly majority leader, made it to both events).

Incidentally, a new statewide poll reportedly has **Kevin Shelley** rising to second place, slightly behind **March Fong Eu**, in the five-person race for the Demo nomination for secretary of state in the March 2002 primary.

And, a new poll by S.F.-based **David Binder** shows former State Insurance Commissioner **John Garamendi** well ahead in the race to become the Democratic nominee for his old job; state Senator **Jackie Speier** reportedly has decided against the race for the insurance post and no Republican candidates have yet announced in the race.

The S.F.-based campaign/PR firm of **Barnes, Mosher, Whitehurst, Lauter & Partners** has opened an office in Sacramento at 1121 L Street, (916) 325-8600, with **Mark Capitolo** as director of state government relations for BMW.

Washington insiders say that San Francisco U.S. Attorney **Robert Mueller** definitely has the inside track to become the next director of the FBI.

A couple of weeks ago this column slammed California Attorney General **Bill Lockyer** for his outrageous comments about an energy company executive deserving to go to prison and be placed in a cell with a "tough, tattooed" inmate where he would likely be raped; an idiotic comment by the state's top cop. Well, Lockyer, apparently having had second thoughts about rape in prison, writes a letter apologizing for advocating that prison rape is proper punishment for criminals. Lockyer: "I guess I let my anger get the better of me in talking about the mercenary corporate executives who are making life so miserable for millions of Californians. I should have made my point - that even the most powerful corporate executives are not beyond the law - without the crude remark."

And how was your week? ▼

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# Gay moms, healthy kids

by Dale Carpenter

Children are at the center of the culture war over the place of gays in American life. A new review of two decades' worth of studies on children raised by same-sex couples gives some ammunition to both sides, especially to gay parents, but the battle is far from over.

Anxiety about potential child molestation and about what effect gays might have on children's sexuality and general development drives several present-day controversies. It is surely behind the Boy Scouts' policy barring openly gay scoutmasters. It is behind the effort of some public schools to bar gay-straight student clubs and the resistance to a "diversity" curriculum promoting tolerance of gays. It is also part of the justification for prohibiting same-sex marriage: Marriage is for raising children, the argument goes, and we know gays just can't do that.

Three states — Arizona, Florida, and Utah — explicitly forbid adoptions by homosexuals. A larger number of states presume against child custody and adoption by gays. A possible basis for these laws is that gays are not fit parents or aren't as likely as straights to be fit parents; it's generally just not in the best interests of children to be raised by gays. But is this best-interests justification a mere pretext for anti-gay animus?

Two sociologists at the University of Southern California, Timothy Biblarz and Judith Stacey, recently analyzed the available research on children raised by gay couples. In general, they found that children raised by gay couples are somewhat different from those raised in traditional, opposite-sex households. But overall, they turn out just fine.

There is good news for gay parents raising kids. According to

Biblarz, "Children brought up by lesbians and gay men are well adjusted, have good levels of self-esteem, [and] are as likely to have high educational attainments as children raised in traditional heterosexual families." There is apparently no difference in the children's mental health, including the incidence of anxiety and depression.

In fact, children raised by gay women have advantages over children raised in opposite-sex homes. Co-mothers, the researchers found, are typically more involved in their children's lives and are more nurturing than heterosexual parents. Two gay mothers also tend to be more in agreement on approaches to parenting.

by gay parents feel less shame about same-sex sexual activity and are therefore more likely to report it when it occurs. That does not tell us much about whether they are actually experimenting more with gay sex than children raised in heterosexual families. The other problem is that the sample size was extremely small, involving only 25 interviewees for the gay households and 20 for the straight households.

So despite headlines claiming that researchers had found "differences" in gay-raised children and that they were challenging politically correct social science favorable to gay parents, the news is generally good.

But we can't be too sanguine about what is still really debatable and inconclusive evidence on gay parenting. The studies reviewed

## There is good news for gay parents raising kids.

However, children raised by same-sex parents are not exactly like their peers in traditional families. Some of those differences are arguably for the better. Teenage boys with gay parents were more sexually restrained, less aggressive, and more nurturing. Girls raised by gay women aspire to occupations not considered traditionally female. They also act and dress in less stereotypically feminine ways.

One study reviewed by Biblarz and Stacey found that young adults raised by gay women were more likely to engage in same-sex activity (but no more likely to identify as gay). This will be fodder for religious conservatives opposed to gay parenting.

However, there are two problems with the conclusion that children raised in gay households are more likely to have same-sex experiences. The first is that the study relied on self-reporting. It seems likely that children raised

by Biblarz and Stacey have been characterized by small sample sizes, nonrandom canvassing of subjects, and short time series. Nearly all have involved gay female, rather than gay male, parents. Some have argued that the studies are tainted by possible researcher bias, although there is no hard evidence for this. At the very least, all studies agree that there is certainly some stress visited on the children of gay households because of teasing by other children.

The truth is, we still can't be certain what effect gay parents have on the development of their children. We have a pretty good idea, but not yet enough to convince the skeptics. ▼

Dale Carpenter is the winner of three Vice Versa awards for excellence in gay writing. He can be reached at [OutRight@aol.com](mailto:OutRight@aol.com).

## Triangle assault

◀ page 1

lip, and chipped teeth. He declined a trip to the emergency room because one of the helpers is a nurse and found that his jaw was not broken.

According to the San Francisco Police Department report, Sepas told a police officer he ignored the group's verbal assault at first, but then confronted them

when they began throwing equipment down the hill from above the triangle.

Among the items being thrown were the Christmas lights used to illuminate the triangle at night, Carney said.

He said the incident started after the attackers apparently became enraged while reading signs explaining the pink triangle. The symbol was used by the Nazis to label and target homosexuals and lesbians during

World War II. Today it is often used to commemorate the dangers LGBT people face, and to encourage solidarity against threats.

"This guy read the signs and then started yelling 'Faggots should be labeled, they should be shamed,'" Carney said.

"It's ironic," he said. "It shows the same kind of thing that existed in the 1940s exists today. But little did we know it would happen here." ▼

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## COMMENTARY

# Um, wrong bathroom?

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

I'll freely admit it: I'm tired. After two days chock full of parties and marches, I'm hardly in the condition to sit in front of a computer, let alone sound coherent. Nevertheless, I want to share with you one of the bigger issues when it comes to being transgendered: the bathroom problem.

"What bathroom do you use?" is a question that nearly every transgender person has been asked time and time again. It's on the lips of human resource directors when a transgendered person walks into their office to discuss transition. It even appears, unspoken, any time we walk toward those two doors in just about any public place.

When we finally do walk into one or the other bathroom, things can turn ugly very quickly. Many transgendered people have faced arrest, humiliation, and violence simply because they had to pee. Indeed, the choice of bathrooms can be one of the biggest taboos that a gender-variant person has to handle and, in some cases, one of the bigger risks we can take.

This issue cuts across boundaries: you don't have to be transgender-identified to know what it's like to be escorted out of a bathroom, or at least face those surprised looks from others in the potty. All it can take is a short haircut and masculine attire to be questioned in a ladies' room.

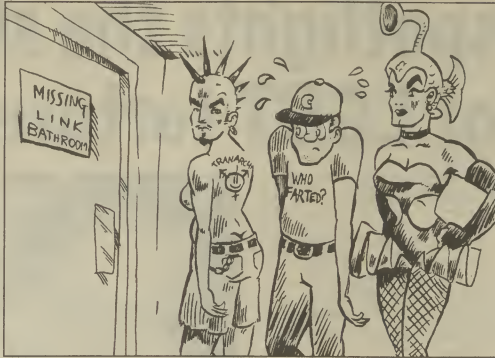
I've been lucky with such accommodations. While I've raised a quizzical eyebrow now and then, I'm sure, my presence in a women's restroom has never been challenged. I also was able to avoid the issue at the workplace where I transitioned, as there was only a single stall available for everyone.

I wonder what people must think we're going to do in a bathroom. I tend to go in for one reason, and it isn't the ambience. Sometimes – just like anyone else – I simply need to use the facilities. And when those times arise – just like anyone else – I use the bathroom that seems most appropriate.

I suppose all this concern over transgendered people using a particular bathroom facility boils down to a desire for safety. People simply want to feel safe when they are at their most vulnerable, and they can feel pretty exposed with their pants around the ankles or their fly unzipped. Further, it doesn't take a brilliant mind to figure out that because a person is transcending gender norms, ze is instantly perceived as a threat to a person's security.

But it can also be a safety issue for a transgendered person. As I said, there can be plenty of restroom situations that can turn unpleasant if a transgendered person walked in. So how can we provide for the comfort of all who opt for a particular bathroom? I'm not sure there is a good answer, though many have tried.

Some wish to draw a line, and decide the point when a transgendered person can enter a particular restroom. Some put it as after genital surgery, while others point to the moment a transgendered individual takes to living in their preferred gender role on a full time basis. Still others feel



that it depends on the outward presentation (male or female) at the time.

In a community with so many different identifications – and so many presentations – it can be difficult to pin down any arbitrary dividing line. All of them fall apart under close scrutiny. Besides, one does not end up being "safe" in a bathroom simply because of their appearance, surgical status, or living arrangements.

What happens when you don't – or don't want to – match one of those two binary genders that are depicted on the doors? I simply do not know. Maybe one could flip a coin when approaching the restrooms? On second thought, I doubt that would satisfy anyone involved.

Single-use toilets seem to be a dying breed, and there are very few "gender neutral" bathrooms a la *Ally McBeal*. It may work for Hollywood, but I've yet to encounter one in my own travels. I'm not even sure that many people are even ready for such, or would even know how to handle themselves in a mixed restroom.

Some have tried to make special accommodations, even remodeling unused and unlabeled bathrooms specifically for transgendered individuals. The Metropolitan Boston Transit Authority, for example, spent \$8,000 refurbishing a former porter's closet into a private third bathroom. Many other workplaces have designated separate facilities for their transgender workers, in an effort to make their non-transgendered employees comfortable while meeting the needs of the transgendered ones.

To me, this reminds me a little too much of the "colored" bathrooms of the South. Separate but equal didn't work in that case, and I don't see it working for transgendered people today. It can be hard enough to find a bathroom, without having to locate that special one reserved for those who don't fit someone's idea of man and woman.

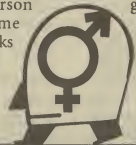
I must admit though, it would be fun to watch the poor soul who isn't transgendered, discovering that the only bathroom in their proximity is the one reserved for transgendered people. He or she

would probably burst before venturing into "the tranny zone."

Oh, and while I'm at it, I should probably mention that the San Francisco Human Rights Commission is doing a bit of research into bathrooms and gender-based harassment. If you have a story to share, please give Dylan Wade a shout, either at (415) 252-2529 or via e-mail at [dylan\\_wade@ci.sf.ca.us](mailto:dylan_wade@ci.sf.ca.us).

Maybe through their good work, we can find a viable solution to the bathroom problem. ▼

Gwen Smith will freely admit that this column has been partially influenced by Tribe 8's song, "Wrong Bathroom." You can find her on the Web at [www.gwensmith.com](http://www.gwensmith.com) or in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo."



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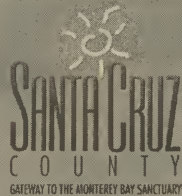


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### Correction

The essay, "We must fight for the invisible in the community," in the June 21 Pride section of the Bay Area Reporter was co-authored by Chris Tavelli and Cynthia Wides.





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# Amnesty report spotlights the shadows of LGBT torture

by David Fraser

"Coming midnight, they said, 'We want to show you something.' They took my clothes off and raped me. I remember being raped by two of them, and then I passed out." — Christine, lesbian in Uganda

Frederick was arrested after an argument. According to testimony, he was handcuffed and pinned to the wall. The arresting officer then allegedly pulled down Frederick's pants and sprayed cleaning fluid on a billy club before sodomizing him with it. — African American man in Chicago

"After I was raped [by another inmate] they asked me if I had learned my lesson ... [Guards] said that since I'm gay I ought to have enjoyed it." — HIV-positive gay man in Virginia

The three stories above are among many in a new report just released by Amnesty International, "Crimes of Hate, Conspiracy of Silence: Torture and Ill-Treatment Based on Sexual Identity."

The report documents torture



Amnesty's Michael Heflin

and ill-treatment in 30 countries, including the United States, Uganda, Pakistan, Argentina, and Russia. It details cases of LGBT people who were antagonized in custody, physically and sexually assaulted, subjected to medical or psychiatric treatment, and sometimes forced to flee their home countries because of persecution based on sexual identity.

Amnesty released its report at a press conference at the Hiram Johnson State Building in San Francisco last Friday, June 22, on

the eve of Pride celebrations, seeking to "galvanize" LGBT communities here and worldwide for attention and support.

The event was hosted by San Francisco Assemblywoman Carole Migden, who was unable to attend due to budget hearings in Sacramento. She sent her field representative, Kirsten Boyd.

In a statement, Migden urged people to "speak out, and come out." The assemblywoman sponsored AB276, which doubles the amount of time people have to report hate crimes. The bill has passed the California Assembly and is under consideration in the Senate.

There were simultaneous releases of Amnesty's report in New York, Chicago, and Buenos Aires. Amnesty said "Crimes of Hate" was the first report of its kind issued by an international organization.

## Not in a vacuum

"The offenses documented here do not happen in a vacuum," said Michael Heflin, director for OUTfront, Amnesty's program on LGBT human rights. "There's a continued climate of global violence and discrimination."

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# United Nations holds AIDS session

by Bob Roehr

An atmosphere of apprehension and behind-the-scenes turmoil permeated the opening of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS. The three-day session, June 25-27, is known by the unfortunate acronym of UNGASS.

Its purpose is to focus world attention on the epidemic, craft structures to administer the \$7-10 billion annually that U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has said is necessary to combat the plague, and dozens of other things depending on who you listen to.

About 2,000 demonstrators marched through the streets of Manhattan on Saturday, June 23, to urge dramatic changes in confronting the global pandemic of AIDS. It was organized by the Health GAP Coalition, an international coalition of scores of organizations.

Rain disrupted the initial assembly for the march; it stopped for the duration of the march, but the skies opened up again with a series of torrential downpours just as they reached their destination of Bryant Park. The rally was shortened but no less lively.

"Drop the debt 100 percent," chanted the sudden crowd. Cancellation of Africa's international debt is a major point for one set of players where alliances may change from issue to issue. It

would end the \$250 million a week drain that those nations make in interest payments just to the International Monetary Fund.

The theory is that this money could then be spent on health care for the people of those nations. Observers said that it is likely that some would, but the reality is that other portions would be disbursed in the same ways that the original debt was acquired, on the purchase of weapons, prestigious but inappropriate development projects, and be squirreled away into secret Swiss bank accounts.

"This is the day when business as usual has to stop, at the U.N. and in the Western countries of the world," said South African Mercy Makhalemele. "We call on the United States and other wealthy countries to invest multiple billions" to assist developing countries in building their health infrastructure to fight HIV.

She compared it to the Marshall Plan that rebuilt the shattered landscape of post-World War II Europe. What she did not mention was the billions of dollars in aid that developed nations have given the developing world over the past decades.

Many AIDS advocates are dismayed that this is the first time the U.N. has held a special session dealing with HIV, though it routinely holds such special sessions on other topics. Part of the underlying explanation why such a meeting has not occurred earlier has been seen in the continuing dead-

lock over language in documents that the UNGASS hopes to approve.

AIDS advocates have proposed what they see as a realistic approach to dealing with issues of women's rights, homosexuality, prostitution, and injection drug use. They are pushing for language that includes these groups as those at greatest risk for infection and utilizes peer education a part of an overall prevention program. Much of their language is framed in terms of basic human rights.

Some developing nations see this as Western cultural imperialism attempting to impose its values upon them. Many Islamic nations and the Vatican have steadfastly opposed including specific language on homosexuals, prostitutes, and drug users in the U.N. document as an attack upon the traditional family.

The American delegation, which includes few AIDS advocates and many social conservatives, has vacillated during the negotiations. Their concerns include not wanting to appear to confer special status on the stigmatized groups and wanting to blunt the call for treatment as opposed to care and prevention.

The U.S. positions led the group Human Rights Watch and others to charge that the U.S. was attempting to "censor" the U.N. document and promote "the denial and discrimination that have helped spread the disease." ▼





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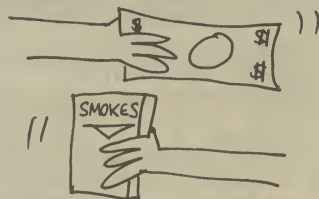


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## Court rulings fly in Rosenkrantz case

by Ed Walsh

Gay prisoner Robert Rosenkrantz could be released as soon as this week if the California Supreme Court lets a lower court order stand.

Last Thursday, June 21, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Paul Gutman ordered Rosenkrantz's immediate parole. The next day, the state appealed to the Court of Appeals but the three-judge panel refused to halt Rosenkrantz's release. The state immediately appealed to the California Supreme Court. Last Friday evening, June 22, the high court issued a stay of parole and gave Rosenkrantz's lawyers until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 26, to file opposing briefs. The Supreme Court could decide at any time whether to allow, or block, Rosenkrantz's immediate parole.

This is the second time the state Supreme Court has been asked to look at the Rosenkrantz case. Last year, the high court refused to overturn a decision by another Superior Court judge to release him.

Rosenkrantz's fight for parole has been tied up in the courts for two years. The state Attorney General's office, under direction from Governor Gray Davis and his hand-picked parole board, has been fighting to keep Rosenkrantz locked up. Davis once vowed to block the parole of all convicted killers and has only allowed the release of one murderer since taking office.

In 1999, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Kathryn Stoltz first ordered Rosenkrantz paroled, ruling he had been un-

fairly and illegally denied parole. Her decision was later strongly endorsed by the appeals court.

On two separate occasions last year, Rosenkrantz was told to pack up his belongings and was processed for release but each time the state was successful in stopping parole at the last minute.

This year, the state got the case reassigned to Gutman. State attorneys had argued that Stoltz was biased in Rosenkrantz's favor.

Gutman's 25-page ruling echoed much of Stoltz's strongly worded rulings on the case.

"There is a total absence of any evidence in the record supporting the governor's opinion that petitioner represents a 'continued threat to the public,'" Gutman wrote. "While the governor is entitled to express his opinion, the opinion itself must be factually supported and it is not."

Gutman was sharply critical of Davis's hard line on parole.

"The governor's no-parole policy is demonstrative of an actual bias against an entire class of cases that the governor is charged with adjudicating," wrote the judge.

Rosenkrantz, 34, had just turned 18 and had graduated from high school in 1985 when he shot and killed his schoolmate, Steve Redman. A week before the shooting, Redman attacked Rosenkrantz, calling him and his friends "faggots," and later outed him to his parents. Rosenkrantz bought an Uzi, approached Redman outside his home near Malibu, and threatened to shoot up his car if he did not come with him to his parents' house to take back the outing. Rosenkrantz opened fire, shooting Redman 10

times, after he said Redman refused to take back the outing and continued to call him a faggot.

Rosenkrantz fled to Northern California, but he eventually turned himself in and was convicted of second-degree murder. He has been by all accounts a model prisoner and has been eligible for parole since 1996.

In his order blocking Rosenkrantz's parole last October, Davis wrote that Rosenkrantz deserves to spend more time in prison because of the callous nature of his crime. Although all prison evaluations strongly recommended Rosenkrantz's parole, Davis insisted Rosenkrantz remains a threat to society.

Davis also wrote that Rosenkrantz is not sufficiently remorseful for his crime. Ironically, the governor supported that belief by quoting Rosenkrantz out of context from a statement in which Rosenkrantz was expressing his remorse. At his parole hearing last year, referring to Redman's initial attack on him, Rosenkrantz said: "He did a bad thing. I did a much worse thing that I will regret the rest of my life." Davis excerpted the phrase "He did a bad thing" as an example of Rosenkrantz blaming his victim and not being remorseful.

Larry Diamond, the assistant district attorney who prosecuted Rosenkrantz in 1986, said he disagreed with Rosenkrantz's supporters who characterize Redman's attack on Rosenkrantz as a gay bashing. Diamond pointed out that Redman was joined in the confrontation by Rosenkrantz's younger brother. Diamond said the fight had its roots in sibling ri-

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## Knoller's lawyer takes aim at grand jury selection process

by Ed Walsh

Defense attorneys in the fatal dog mauling of Diane Whipple are taking aim at the grand jury that indicted Marjorie Knoller and Robert Noel, the caretakers of the two dogs involved in the January 26 attack.

At a hearing on Monday, June 25, Knoller's public defense lawyer, Jan Lecklikner, suggested that there may have been an "underrepresented class" of people who made up the grand jury. She demanded to know the process by which the jurors were selected and asked the judge to release transcripts of the jury selection process. Lecklikner added that it was important to the defense to know the race, gender, and sexual orientation of the panel so she could be assured it was balanced.

In response to Lecklikner's concern over the racial and sexual orientation makeup of the jurors, San Francisco Assistant District Attorney Jim Hammer said the transcripts would not indicate the race nor the sexual orientation of jurors since potential jurors would not be asked their race or sexual orientation in the selection process.

Superior Court Judge James Warren ruled that "all proceedings by which the grand jury was selected" would have to be provided to the defense. Warren said that would include the handbook jurors were given and information about potential jurors who were rejected for the panel. Warren's order excluded the release of the jurors' names or other "personal data" that could lead to the identification of individual jurors.

In another matter, Warren gave Lecklikner until July 6 to file a motion to have the murder charge dismissed against Knoller on the grounds that there is insufficient evidence to prosecute her for murder. Knoller, who was with the dogs during the attack, is being charged with second-degree murder. Noel is being charged with involuntary manslaughter. Each also faces a charge of keeping a mischievous animal that killed a human being.

Hammer said Lecklikner's motion should be kept under seal since his response to why he believes the murder charge is warranted would have to be under seal because it would bring up information that was included in the sealed grand jury transcripts. In response, Lecklikner said it was

her intention all along to seal her motion.

Noel and Knoller have been in custody on a combined bail of \$3 million since their arrests following the grand jury indictment of the couple on March 27. The grand jury process sidestepped a preliminary hearing that would have made public more of the evidence in the case. Grand jury proceedings are held in private.

Monday's hearing had far fewer observers than any of the previous hearings on the case. Aside from this writer, just one other reporter attended and he left before it was over. The only non-media observer was Janet Batchelder, the sister of Sharon Smith, Whipple's partner of seven years. Batchelder said although she knew it wasn't a major hearing on the case, she wanted to be there to show her support. Batchelder marched alongside Smith during Sunday's Pride Parade.

Both Noel and Knoller were present for the hearing. They quietly chatted and passed notes throughout the proceeding. Knoller's rapid weight loss since her arrest was dramatically evident as she walked in and out of the courtroom. ▼



## COMMUNITY NEWS



Transgender Israeli singer  
Dana International

## Pride review

◀ page 1

were happy to check out the many sexy parade marchers and drag queens and applaud those who have fought for equal rights for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgenders.

Several transgender contingents marched near the beginning of the parade, behind Supervisor Mark Leno, one of the grand marshals. Other grand marshals included San Francisco Assemblywoman Carole Migden, who was cheered for her legislation that would expand rights to registered same-sex domestic partners; longtime community activist Duane Cramer; sexologist Dr. Carol Queen; and leatherwoman "Mama" Sandy Reinhardt, who rode in a chariot pulled by leathermen. The organization grand marshal was the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

Sharon Smith, the partner of Diane Whipple, marched with Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom and Marriage Equality California. There were also contingents supporting medical marijuana, LGBT educators, queer youth, gay seniors, gay veterans, LGBT police and firefighters, healthcare workers, and LGBT athletes. The gay Muslims marched for the first time in a Pride Parade. Virtually every community under the LGBT umbrella was represented in style, and all were proud to march under sunny skies.

The renowned Falcon Studios director Chi Chi Larue took hold of the microphone on the Falcon Studios/Bay Area Reporter float

## U.N. gay rights

◀ page 1

Mbeki nor President George W. Bush attended the conference; the highest ranking U.S. representative at the session was Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Levy said he saw two important issues in the debate over IGLHRC's role at the special session: homophobia and the ability of civil society organizations - NGOs - to have a voice in U.N. affairs. "That is the fundamental issue," Levy said.

In her address, Kaplan told the delegates, "... all States must learn to see HIV/AIDS as a crisis enabled and exacerbated by other endemic and egregious human rights violations. Wherever people are victimized by stigma or singled out for hate, they are made vulnerable to HIV.

"Wherever economic or political inequality rends a society, it opens the doors to HIV."

Kofi Annan, the secretary-general of the United Nations, spoke Monday - the first day of the session - and pleaded for cooperation from the 2,000 delegates and observers attending the special session. "AIDS can no longer do its dirty work in the dark," he said. ▼



The ninth annual Dyke March on June 23 drew thousands of women, including these rowdy participants.



These gay dads marched with their baby.

and kept people laughing and cheering with her street-wise observations of the crowd. "Bring me that boa," she demanded of one person, who immediately threw Larue the rainbow colored feather boa. Several Falcon superstars rode or marched alongside the float, handing out goodies to parade-goers. This reporter rode on the float, which celebrated the 30th year of business for both Falcon Studios, founded by the late Chuck Holmes, and the B.A.R., started by Bob Ross. Holmes, who died last September, was good friends with Ross.

There were a couple of glitches during the parade that resulted in some delays. Witherington explained that the LGBT Community Center Project's float suffered a mechanical breakdown when the truck became unhitched from the trailer carrying the float. Mike Marshall, the community center's interim executive director, told the B.A.R. that they took it in stride

and soon had the float fixed.

Following the parade, the crowds spilled into Civic Center, where there were community booths, merchandise, food, and a record 10 entertainment stages. Headlining the main stage were the B-52's and Israeli transgender singing sensation Dana International.

In terms of Saturday's activities in Civic Center, Witherington said that more people attended than in previous years; the highlight was the domestic partner ceremony that included about 120 couples. "It was very poignant," said Witherington.

He added that planning will soon get under way for next year's Pride events, scheduled for June 29 and 30, 2002. Additionally, while final figures are not yet in, Witherington expects that the Pride Committee will be "on track financially," with some funds going to the various organizations designated as community partners. ▼

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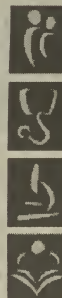
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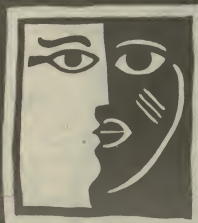
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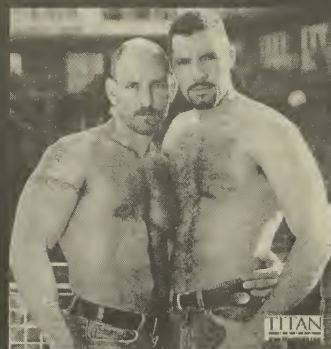
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# Survival of the 'un' fittest

by Matt Sharp, *Survive AIDS Writers Pool*

Maybe I'm going to make it after all. I have survived 11 years of HIV and never beyond my wildest dreams did I think I would reach the recent 20th anniversary of AIDS, let alone 10th or 15th. Even though I have tried most of the available HIV drugs, my virus has become resistant to them, so they are ineffective in stopping HIV reproduction completely. However, even being resistant I've been fairly healthy despite high viral load and declining T-cells. So why have I been able to thrive and survive despite having a heavily mutated virus?

The answer may be just that—a heavily mutated virus, or even partially resistant virus, may be a weaker virus, unable to reproduce as much as once suspected. Although the goal is to stop virus replication completely, there are those people that simply do not have that option, that have become resistant to every drug. If current research is confirmed, a weaker, less fit virus may just keep heavily treated folks healthy.

It is not completely understood how people can stay healthy with a mangled, mutated virus, though there is mounting evidence showing people who have been on triple regimens who have detectable virus levels are able to maintain relatively stable T-cell levels and good clinical health. Dr. Steven Deeks from San Francisco General Hospital has been following a cohort of heavily treated patients for several years and gathering important information about a population of people otherwise infrequently studied. One of Deeks' studies in a recent *New England Journal of Medicine* article showed that despite the presence of drug resistance, HIV drugs may provide a benefit in terms of stable T-cells, viral load, and further resistance. In other words, anti-HIV drugs may still be useful even in those who are have been on multi-drug therapy and are resistant.

Earlier this year, Deeks presented another important study at the retrovirus conference in Chicago. In this study, with sophisticated viral fitness assays,

Deeks showed that those patients who were resistant to protease inhibitors had a less fit virus than those who were susceptible. With more studies we may find what has kept me surviving with a detectable viral load for over five years may partially be a weaker virus.

These studies lead to the belief that resistant, replication-incompetent virus is weaker, or less fit; the virus is not doing the damage once thought. But if this is the case, how can physicians and patients tell how weak the virus is, even if it may not be resistant to antivirals? How can this news be translated to produce a clinical benefit?

Deeks' work has inspired Virologic, a diagnostic company in

South San Francisco, to develop tests to understand and correlate reproduction capacity, or viral fitness. The company, now just under six years old, has grown as the demand for resistance testing has increased. Virologic has licensed the technology to look at the phenotype of HIV. Rather than looking at the individual resistant genes and mapping like the genotype test, (another resistance test) Virologic's PhenoSense phenotype

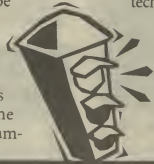
assay actually can determine which individual drugs will stop HIV replication in the laboratory. PhenoSense is an expensive test now covered by Medicaid in 13 states including California and New York. Other third-party payers are joining the bandwagon as physicians are seeing the value of

the test in constructing regimens that will work for patients.

Interestingly, the PhenoSense test led to the discovery of the new replication capacity or fitness assay by the company. A complicated process, the new test is a modification of the PhenoSense that uses a chemical which, in simple terms, produces light in the presence of HIV replication. The company discovered that in using this chemical a brighter light correlated to a fitter virus. Through modification of the PhenoSense the new test will eventually be standardized to show how able a virus is to reproduce. Nick Hellman, vice president of clinical research at Virologic, told me that the new assay is being patented and will need to go through more research for validation. But he seemed to think it would be more widely available in about a year.

Looking back, I realize that according to the understood pathogenesis of HIV, I should have been dead long ago. All of us were led to believe as cocktail therapy became the rage, that an undetectable virus was needed to keep HIV in check. That over the years as the drugs failed, so did immune systems, and then people died. But it may now be that the drugs we have are useful enough despite resistance, along with some immune response.

The news of resistant virus being less fit is good news for the thousands of people who are long-term survivors. And with few new drugs coming to the market this news is welcome as older drugs can be utilized to prolong and save lives despite a high viral load. Further work needs to be done however to validate this encouraging breakthrough in order to provide the utmost care in long term HIV patient management. ▼



**Survive AIDS**

## AIDS housing subsidies fight for place in city budget

by Katie Szymanski

Money that is essential to rental subsidies for people with AIDS was not allocated by Mayor Willie Brown in the city budget, according to local advocates and officials, resulting in the very real danger that 55 units of housing for PWAs could soon be lost.

The funding was requested by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation in order to supplement funds for the PWA housing program. Although Ryan White CARE Act money and general city funds have traditionally supported the program, those funds have not increased with the rise in rental prices, according to SFAF policy director Dana Van Gorder, and an additional \$366,000 is required in the city budget to prevent losing housing for people in need.

"The cost of the program goes up every year as rents go up," Van

Gorder told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"Last year we needed about \$260,000 from the city in order to prevent us from losing about 34 units of housing, and Supervisor Tom Ammann took the lead on that one. This year we went to the mayor and asked that he find us an additional \$360,000 in funds to prevent us from losing 55 units. We weren't successful."

It is now up to the Board of Supervisors, say advocates, to cut unnecessary expenditures in the mayor's budget in order to find the roughly \$366,000 needed for the PWA housing program. Those cuts have been happening all week, and the subsequent add-back portion of the budget process will take place this after-

noon (Thursday, June 28) and tonight, according to Supervisor Mark Leno, chair of the Board of Supervisors' Finance Committee.

"I am 100 percent committed to finding the subsidies for the 55 units that SFAF no longer has," Leno told the *B.A.R.* "The mayor hasn't cut these funds, but they didn't make it into his budget. I am supportive of finding that money, and we are in the process of cutting the budget as we speak, working with analysts who are either accepting or rejecting the recommendations of those cuts."

Leno said that in addition to finding the money for housing for PWAs, the board intends to fund raises for doctors at San Francisco General Hospital, who are paid at

20 percent below the national rate, and give raises to nonprofit contractors that work with the San Francisco Department of Public Health. As more city budget cuts take place, more money will be available to add-back in the form of assistance to those who request it.

"We'll be competing against some very worthy causes," said Van Gorder, who noted that Redevelopment Commissioner Mark Dunlop has also taken a leadership role in trying to secure PWA housing funds from his agency, although that has not been granted in the past.

"At this point," said Van Gorder, "the ball is in the supervisors' court." ▼

### Carmichael

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how he might proceed, though during Carmichael's last court appearance on May 18, he alluded to the many letters he has received on behalf of Carmichael.

While Carmichael argued that the prosecution has failed to turn over some of the evidence—notably police tapes—Assistant District Attorney David Soares told the judge last month that according to his investigation, the San Jose Police Department had provided all police tapes. Carmichael has argued that the tapes show the

officer who was allegedly injured had, in fact, returned to the station after Carmichael was taken to Valley Medical Center and it was only after police at the hospital overheard comments about Carmichael's HIV status that the officer went to the hospital.

Soares previously told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Carmichael's case is in no way about AIDS or AIDS-phobia.

During both the San Jose and San Francisco Pride celebrations, activists have marched on behalf of Carmichael and handed out fliers claiming that Carmichael is being "railroaded" because of his HIV status. Initially, Carmichael

was told that he would be facing misdemeanor charges, but once police overheard him reveal his HIV status to the attending physician, the charges were upgraded to felonies. He was convicted of the single felony battery charge, but because of his prior record faces a third-strike sentence. ▼

Carmichael's sentencing is set for 1:30 p.m. in Department 40 at the Santa Clara County Hall of Justice, 190/200 West Hedding Street, in San Jose. There will be a rally in front of the courthouse starting at 12:30 p.m.

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# Memorial marks life of pioneer gay bookstore owner Steve Lowell

by David Fraser

The life of Steve Lowell, a Buddhist practitioner who pioneered gay literature by opening the Paperback Traffic Bookstore in San Francisco in 1972, was celebrated at the Hartford Street Zen Center last month.

Friends placed a memorial cenotaph of black granite in the center's garden. The stone, engraved with gold leaf calligraphy, is carved with Lowell's bodhisattva name "Highway of Compassion." He received his name from his teacher, the Tibetan Buddhist meditation master Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche.

Along with partner Donn Tatum, Lowell opened the bookstore on Castro Street. It was the first bookstore in the West to promote the emerging field of gay literature.

Lowell came out of the gay liberation movement and became a Buddhist practitioner who taught meditation in centers in San Francisco and Los Angeles until his death from AIDS in Ojai, California in 1993.

At the May 19 memorial for



Friends gathered last month for the Steve Lowell memorial that was dedicated at the Hartford Street Zen Center.

Lowell, Tatum spoke about the role of the Zen center as a place for Buddhist practice for the gay community.

The Hartford Street location was first the site of the Tibetan Buddhist Dharmadhatu in the late 1970s, with Lowell as coordinator. It later became a Zen AIDS hos-

pice under Issan Dorsey, and continues as a Zen center with a large gay membership.

The cenotaph at the center is intended as an inspiration to meditation practitioners. It is believed to be the first memorial for the many gay Buddhists who have died of AIDS. ▽

## Michael George Woods

October 12, 1961 - June 10, 2001



Michael George Woods, 39, of Palm Springs passed away peacefully at home June 10th from respiratory failure due to AIDS. Born in San Jose, Michael worked in electronics for many years. He was also a bar

back and bartender at The Cinch and Renegades, and worked for The Watergardens.

For four years he was actively involved with the Sierra AIDS Council of Angels Camp as a volunteer and Co-chaired the '98 Sierra AIDS Walk. An avid gardener, he was known for his green thumb.

He leaves his parents, William and

Marlene Nicely of Santa Clara, Grandmother, Marie Carvalho, Santa Clara, sisters, Tammy Moreno, Stockton, Kathy Kelley, Modesto, Michelle Nicely, Redwood City, nephews, James, Michael and Nathan, niece Marissa, cat LouKey and Life Partner Rick Machado of Palm Springs.

Memorial contributions can be made to Hospice of the Desert, through Brobeck Charitable Foundation, 2 Embarcadero Place, 2200 Geng Road Palo Alto, CA 94303-0913; Attention: Kristin Greene

Michael brought me great happiness, contentment, was always supportive, and I am so proud of the brave and sweet way he faced the final time of his life. Goodbye my Huzbin, I Love You — Rick

Obituaries must no longer than 200 words. We reserve the right to edit. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.



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# Online company aims to electrify and unite the queer Sonoma area

by David Fraser

No, Electric Pride is not a 1960s band.

But the new Web-based company is rifting ahead, with an innovative Web site and business that is designed to sell LGBTQ products while building community in Sonoma County.

Much of the business is through catalog sales to keep costs down.

Electric Pride, based in Santa Rosa, is billing itself as a resource and forum for communication. Its creators say they will donate 10 percent of the profits back to queer organizations in the area, targeting nonprofit groups like PULSE, Positive Images, Food Not Bombs, Scouting for All, and Spectrum.

"Electric Pride hopes to strengthen these much-needed resources," according to founders Glenn Dalton and Alderin Ordell, who are life partners as well as business partners.

Dalton has lived in Sonoma County his entire life and has donated much of his time to helping nonprofits such as Food Not Bombs, FAIRE, and others.

Ordell is an alumnus of Positive Images, a LGBTQ youth group, and recently graduated from Sonoma State University with a degree in psychology.

## Frustration breeds action

Ordell told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the notion for the business arose mainly from frustration over the limited queer resources in the Sonoma area.

"In Santa Rosa," he said, "there

are not many resources, especially for youth. When I was coming out, I would love to have had a Web page to help, and that's what we've now created."

Most groups in the area, youth-oriented or not, have failed to take root, Ordell added. "I also am sick that online it's nothing but personals, romance, or sex. I wanted a place for people to establish connections, where they can run ads for hiking and other connections."

The Web site, www.electricpride.com, provides information on coming out, surviving in the workplace, surviving school, identity issues, and profiles on area organizations and publications.

One of the more compelling ideas — not yet active online — is for a gay lineage project, which Ordell said was designed to "provide role modeling for people age 10 to 99. There's a page for each age."

"Basically, you send in stories

about what happened, your experiences, at a given age. Someone might come to the page and see stories about being middle-aged, or a first date, et cetera.

"We also have discussions on transgenders, transsexuals, identity issues. We're trying to unify people."

"Ask Marsha" is another feature of the site, where people can write in for advice. "Marsha" is a composite of several psychology graduates.

The founders said their overall mission was to inspire the LGBTQ community in Sonoma County as well as selling high-quality, inexpensive products. These range from bears to candles to flags, spinners, and wind socks. Also online are a variety of essays about coming out and dealing with queer issues. ▽

For more information, e-mail [alderin@electricpride.com](mailto:alderin@electricpride.com).

## Rosenkrantz

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valry and insists it was not a gay bashing. Diamond also reminded Rosenkrantz's supporters of Rosenkrantz's defiant lack of remorse in the three weeks after the shooting, before he turned himself in.

"How do his supporters explain that?" Diamond asked after Rosenkrantz's parole hearing last year.

Rosenkrantz's parole has been endorsed by the judge who presided over the 1986 trial, the

homicide detective who arrested him, and Redman's late grandmother. For the first time last year, Redman's father came forward to oppose parole. Redman was raised by his mother and stepfather, both of whom are deceased.

Rosenkrantz's parole has been supported by a number of state lawmakers including Senate President Pro Tem John Burton (D-San Francisco) and Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco.) Nearly two years ago, the West Hollywood City Council passed a resolution urging that Davis allow Rosenkrantz's parole. ▽

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# Topped Chad

by Jim Provenzano

In many wonderful non-American cities, beautiful male bodies are depicted in outdoor bronze statues. In America, it's on-line or on the newsstands.

While there can be nothing more clear than a nude statue in daylight, fitness magazines hint to a background, veiled through the mesh *International Male*-ness, somewhere between where the bikini flexing video ads and the protein powders lies the "Nudge, nudge, wink, wink."

## Dome-o arigato

If you miss *American Gladiators*, but always wanted a higher octave to your sporn-erotica, *Battle Dome* fits the bill. With a larger flock of video game characters, *Battle Dome* expands the spectacle of corporosports.

A lot of annoying metallic audio effects accompany the machine font graphics between action. Brief 60-second matches that allow maximum commercial breaks of 240 seconds. Sponsors include Telephones, a polite version of phone sex.

Finding a more honest depiction on the official Web site proved problematic. Here's their take on their show:

"*Battle Dome* is an intense new extreme sports competition pitting two teams of amateur athletes (The Challengers) against a team of super athletes (The Battle Dome Warriors). Each one-hour program is a spectacle of raw, in-your-face, extreme physical competition."

They got the raw part right. A regular episode could politely be called "Bun-tastic!"

A fan describes one exposing event: "Robert Green got a massive wedgie from Cuda, who, from looking at the pictures, is really hungry for some of that stripper's ass!"

Cuda, the rasta-haired African American warrior who usually proves victorious is a persistent pants-yanker, and yankee.

Oddly, one player who hasn't bared butt on the show has done it elsewhere, and often. DOA, a.k.a. Chad Ullery, a.k.a. Chad Bannon, a.k.a. Dusty Mannings, a.k.a. Todd Marshall, *Advocate Men*, *Colt*, and *Playgirl* model, bikini model, and now, warrior. His current bio fails to include these credits:

"DOA: Height: 6'5", Weight:

280. The devil himself. Evil personified. His signature line, 'Hate me,' tells it all. He hurts people on and off the arena floor. DOA speaks monosyllabically, in raspy tones. You don't want to know what he does during his 'off' hours."

Actually, we already know.

Unlike the Los Angeles Sparks, which have the honesty to finally directly target market lesbians, their greatest fan base, *Battle Dome* and other sporn entertainments want to reel gay guys in as long as the clueless ones don't figure it out.

The dismissal of DOA's "past" subtextualizes the "nudge, nudge wink, wink" factor, and smacks DOA's naughty past upside our collective head.

## Bitch's back

In a recent episode, DOA pummels a smaller shorts-clad studlet: "You like that choke? You like that choke, you little bitch?" Sputters Rick Francis-

co of his bout with DOA, who'd pulled submission chokes on the contestant, and humped him in an abrupt fashion.

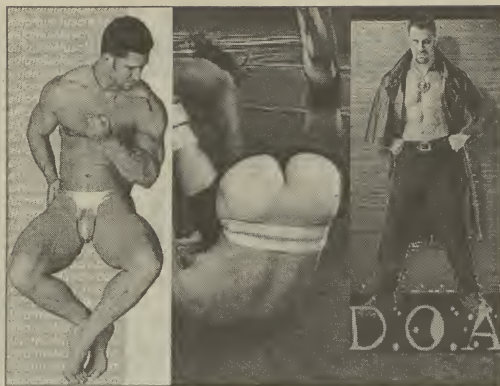
Obviously, Mr. Ullery has dramatic experience, other than on *Battle Dome*, which is, as often said by promoters, not rehearsed, not down to the last "Bitch!" de-pantsing and jock strap snapping on a tilt-a-whirl of a platform.

In contrast to the backstage fictions, the fighting is anything but rehearsed, asserts the ripped host of <http://www.maxsportsmag.com> in a feature article about the amazing workout techniques of these enlarged entertainers.

But it ain't staged. Oh, no. "This is a tough series for the athletes who actually fight," asserts MaxMuscle.com, which shares the training regimens of the show's performers, er, athletes. "Everything you see on *Battle Dome* is real. Nothing is choreographed, the broken bones, black eyes and the blood is 100 percent reality."

"The *Battle Dome* crew goes to lengths to keep the real names of the Warriors secret," notes MaxMuscle. "Just like wrestling. But as time goes on, we'll undoubtedly learn more."

Those who see DOA as a familiar face know more. In Catalina's *Behind the Barn Door*, he enjoys the company of Bo Summers on both a poolside porn and in a bed. Bo offers amusement for



Carnoflame: Chad before, a *Battle Dome* butt, Chad as DOA

those who enjoy seeing the little guy come out on top.

Yes, the *Newlywed Game* answer for Chad would be, *Up the butt, Bob*.

In the solo video, *White Men With Big Dicks*, Chad goes from pool, to kitchen, to fireplace, to fancy chair, where he achieves full tumult, then shaves his face in a bathroom. He also appeared in the gay porn flick *Assume the Position*, where, no doubt, he did.

Pity a career without proper management. Where were the Rip Colts, with film even, when he was so receptive in his acting style? It is underserving of such a treasure, whose form would be welcome in the Etruscan Wing of the Met, at least in his relaxed form. Bent over and pulsingly erect, it's just too bad the lighting was often so bad.

Meet the many sides of Chad. Ripped, flexed, straight, gay, drooping, stiff, and topped.

## Whore/Madonna

This is not solely an American trend. A British actor, Kym Dalton, caused huge controversy in the early 1990s as a contestant on the U.K. version of *Gladiators*. He developed a huge teenage following, but it didn't stop him appearing in porno mags both straight and gay.

Porn performers both veteran and sophomoric have crossed over in a variety of ironic entities.

Mr. Ullery, however, did not seem to enjoy an early entry, and his abrupt departure from porn settled into bikini ads, fitness training, and stripping in Denver.

His clothed theatrical debut is perhaps now lost. *Kill Madonna*, a video filmette by a Cory Chambers, is described as "a wild ride into the harsh reality of four, young gay men on an obscene mission of partying and sex. Some will find naked ecstasy; others will find a violent demise in this new, unique thriller."

Unique in that it fell off the face of the earth. *Kill Madonna* does not include the titled act, but is low, low, low-budget murder mystery.

Unfortunately, Mr. Chambers's Web presence has become another mystery, possibly in part from Madonna Ciccone's power, or just the fact that based on the stills, the video is simply inept.

What are fans of Chad Ullery "naked ecstasy" to do?

To see Chad live somewhere in L.A., contact the show's site, which features broadcast schedules. In the Bay Area, it plays on Channel 44 Saturday nights at 12:30.

To see him work out, Venice is

a good place to start. That's Venice, California.

Allow Maxsportsmag.com to gush again: "Chad Ullery is intimidating as hell with his (sic) go-tee, side burns, and a tattoo that covers most of his back. One look at him and you know exactly why the producers came up with the name DOA." On Tuesdays and Thursdays, you can see the entire *Battle Dome* gang being trained by Tito Raymond.

Fellow co-stars Christian Boeving and Michael O'Hearn work out there as well, and have posed nearly nude elsewhere. But they've never been brave enough to get plowed like hardy Chad.

Is *Battle Dome* an ass-happy retreat of *American Gladiators* or a "roided out *Starlight Express*, with DOA's resume just a tad more sexual than the others? At least *Gladiators* had Turbo, who told the *Village Voice*'s Michael Musto he was gay. Unfortunately, he left the show soon afterward.

Unlike A.G., *Battle Dome* may never have gay action figures. DOA's could be a retroactive Billy Doll. Knowing Chad's taken a weenie up that perfect backside makes him likable, despite the show's duplicity.

Full-service gay actors like Chad are rare. Send a thank you to UPN for broadcasting this panalogy of popos and diverting depantsings. Let's have more Ciccolina entries from porn to politics and entertainment. If a Colt model can be the mayor of West Hollywood, why not J.T. Sloan as ambassador to Canada, Blue Blake as Australian condom commissar, or Chad Ullery in *Hercules, the Gay Adventures*? ▼

Jim Provenzano is the author of *PINS* (Myrmidude Press). For info, visit <http://www.myrmidude.com>.

## Amnesty

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He added that in oppression of LGBT people, "too often it's based on culture, religion, morality, or public health" notions that are used to justify anti-gay action by individuals, groups, or governments.

"Dehumanizing people [due to sexual orientation] paves the way for intolerance in societies," Heflin added.

Margery Farrar, a spokeswoman for U.S. Representative Tom Lantos, said the congressman this week was introducing a concurrent resolution expressing the concern of Congress on human rights violations against LGBT individuals around the world.

"Tom Lantos very strongly supports this brave report," Farrar told the audience. "It was brave to document it, and braver for people to have given information [for the report]."

Surina Khan, executive director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, said, "Torture is extremely widespread when it comes to sexuality. When someone wants to control a body, they retaliate against the body. The problems extend to rape and torture by the state and by families."

## Devaluing life

Dharmaraj, executive director of the Women's Institute for Leadership Development and Human Rights, warned that torture is the

most extreme form of discrimination.

"It begins subtly," Dharmaraj said, "by devaluing life. Torture tells us that some of us could be disposed of ... what better way to convey that to individuals or groups than by torture?"

People cannot talk about LGBT issues without talking about and recognizing the related functions of racism, sexism, and gender discrimination, she added.

Both Khan and Dharmaraj stressed the right to sexual autonomy, rather than identity, since many people don't identify themselves with lesbian or gay labels but do have same-sex relationships. Dharmaraj stressed that people may be out in different ways in different times and places.

"Crimes of Hate" is the latest report in Amnesty International's current yearlong campaign against torture worldwide. The U.S. campaign was launched last October in San Francisco.

Julianne Cartwright-Traylor, chair of Amnesty's board of directors, noted that torture "thrives on indifference from the general public. Our task is to turn the indifference into outrage, and the outrage into action."

Cartwright-Traylor called for increased efforts by human rights activists. "We feel it's time that human rights activists joined the fight [against torture]," she said.

Heflin, her colleague, noted that 70 countries practice systematic discrimination against LGBT people, in addition to a number of U.S. states with anti-gay laws on

the books.

He added that transgressors were at "extremely high risk" for discrimination, abuse, and torture "in many countries, 'at home, in school, at work, on the street.'"

In the U.S., Heflin added, the key point is that "we need to see this as an international movement that continues to struggle for LGBT rights in the U.S., and we need to see protections put in place around the world."

U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi issued a statement commending Amnesty International for its report.

She joined Lantos as a co-sponsor of his resolution on Tuesday, June 26, according to her spokeswoman, Catherine Dodd.

In the U.S., Pelosi said, "according to the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, in 1998, 33 Americans were murdered because they were gay or lesbian," and there were 2,552 reports of anti-gay or lesbian incidents as well as serious assaults.

"How many more deaths, how many assaults on the personal integrity of people, need to happen before our Congress will see the need for hate crimes legislation?" Pelosi's statement asked.

Amidst the horror stories in "Crimes of Hate, Conspiracy of Silence," there's a photograph with an upbeat message: "I'm here. I'm queer. And I'm not going to the Mainland." It is a slogan on a T-shirt that a gay man is wearing in Tasmania, Australia, where severe anti-gay laws have been challenged in court. ▼

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## LEGAL NOTICES

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249166

The following person(s) are doing business as: Bill's Kitchen & Teryaki, 475 3rd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by a husband and wife signed Kin Bun Lam and Dina Lam. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, May 28, 01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/30/01.

JUNE 7, 14, 21, 28, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249185

The following person(s) are doing business as: Systems Innovation, 16 Cordova Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Joevie Bandalan-President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, May 30, 01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/30/01.

JUNE 7, 14, 21, 28, 2001

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 321699

In the Matter of the Application of Michael Gruebel. For change of Name. The application of Michael Gruebel for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Michael Gruebel has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Angela Michaels Barrett. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 30th day of July at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JUNE 7, 14, 21, 28, 2001

## STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO. 243427

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Systems Innovation. Located at: 16 Cordova Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: 9/12/2000. This business was conducted by: a individual: Joevie Bandalan

JUNE 7, 14, 21, 28, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249458

The following person(s) are doing business as: Golden State T & T Enterprises, 1221 26th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Victoria Tatrovsky, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 7, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/08/01.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249152

The following person(s) are doing business as: Urban Arrangement, 1094 Market Street Ste. 514, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Steban Guevara and David J. Guevara. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, May 29, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/29/01.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249087

The following person(s) are doing business as: Austin-Porter, Attorneys At Law, 584 Castro Street #273, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Partnership signed Alison Austin and La Cheryl Porter. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, April 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/21/01.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249431

The following person(s) are doing business as: Papa Toby's Revolution Cafe \* Art Bar, 3248 22nd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Terry Chastain and Daniel R. Scrivner. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/07/01.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249330

The following person(s) are doing business as: Laguna Apartments, 1215 Laguna Street #402, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Andre C. Ferrigno and Thomas E. Gordon. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 4, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/05/01.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249306

The following person(s) are doing business as: LF Designs, 715 Haight Street #5, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by an individual signed Lee Stuart Fenyes. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 4, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/04/01.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249392

The following person(s) are doing business as: Soo Gee International Productions, 160 Madrone Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed Sugimasa Yamashita. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/06/01.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 248770

The following person(s) are doing business as: Half Price Auto, 3255 3rd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Elvelo Pinheiro Machado Filho. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, May 10, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/10/01.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 321826

In the Matter of the Application of Howard Charles Davis. For change of Name. The application of Howard Charles Davis, for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Howard Charles Davis has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Sabel Samone. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 13th day of July at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249221

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 281 Ellis Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Chastain Terry Scott and Scrivner Daniel Robert. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 3248 22nd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. Type of license Applied for:

41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE

JUNE 14, 21, 28, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249216

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 1567 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Lam Dina and Lam Kin Bun. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 475 Third Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. Type of license Applied for:

41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE

JUNE 14, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249224

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 964A Market Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, Secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249225

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 537 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, Secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249218

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 1399 Haight Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249219

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 2300 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249220

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 3000 San Bruno Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249222

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 2831 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249223

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 1040 Polk Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249217

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 1101 Market Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249215

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 4919 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249214

The following person(s) are doing business as: Money Mart, 500 Valencia Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Peter Sokolowski, secretary. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 05/18/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249720

The following person(s) are doing business as: The French Tulp, 4834 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94112. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Kevin Odilloz. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/20/01.

JUNE 28, JULY 5, 12, 19, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249454

The following person(s) are doing business as: P4 (Passionate, Powerful, Playful, People), 3005 20th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jennifer Dalton. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 8, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/08/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249513

The following person(s) are doing business as: Puma Painting and Waterproofing, 135 Townsend Street, Suite 602, San Francisco, Ca. 94107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Emilio O. Porta. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/12/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 247397

The following person(s) are doing business as: Weddwest, 88 2nd Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by an individual signed Erik W. Webb. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, March 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 03/13/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249612

The following person(s) are doing business as: Coffee Break, 4601 Geary Blvd, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Piotr Baran. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/15/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249592

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lam Hoa Thuan Restaurant, 2237 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Ann N. Tran, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/14/01.

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 12, 2001

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Chaya & Associates Inc. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 132 The Embarcadero, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. Type of license Applied for:

47-ON SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE

JUNE 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249762

The following person(s) are doing business as: R & R Janitorial, 419 Campbell Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Rene I. Hernandez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 22, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/22/01.

JUNE 28, JULY 5, 12, 19, 2001

## STATEMENT FILE NO. 249532

The following person(s) are doing business as: Blue Period, 584 Castro Street #475, San Francisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a general partnership signed Danny McCloskey. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, June 13, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/13/01.

JUNE 28, JULY 5, 12, 19, 2001

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 321985

In the Matter of the Application of Sharon Ng Hashimoto. For change of Name. The application of Sharon Ng Hashimoto for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Sharon Ng Hashimoto has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Sharon Ann Ng. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 9th day of August at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JUNE 14, 21, 28, JULY 5, 2001

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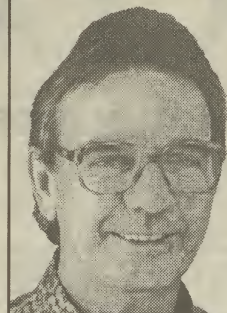
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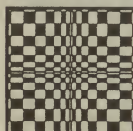
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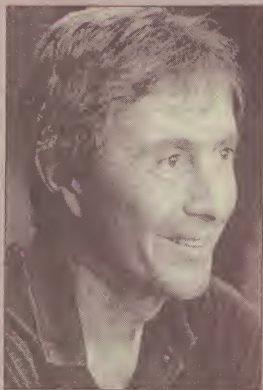
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 26 • 28 June 2001



The Closet director Francis Veber

## Francis Veber comes out of The Closet

by Brandon Judell

A placard at a 1979 gay pride march read, "The closet is an awful place to die." Not anymore, thanks to director/writer Francis Veber.

You're probably familiar with the work of this striking Frenchman because of his Oscar nomination for co-writing the groundbreaking hit film *La Cage aux Folles* (1978). Elaine May slightly rewrote his screenplay for the 1996 hit *The Birdcage*. And of course you remember the Broadway version, which spawned every drag queen's national anthem, "I Am What I Am."

Other gay-content films Veber has had a hand in were the dreadful *Partners* (1982) with Ryan O'Neal and John Hurt, plus the enjoyable *La Cage aux Folles II* (1980). His straight hits include *My Father the Hero* (1994), *The Dinner Game* (1998), and *The Tall Blond Man with One Black Shoe* (1972).

But *The Closet* might just be his most hilarious and savvy work. Here, a humdrum accountant in a condom factory makes believe he's gay so he won't get fired. If you're selling rubbers, you don't want to upset the gay market, right? The hero's declaration elicits delicious farcical consequences,

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## Armoire not Classic French farce

by Robert Julian

I've seen at least four American movies in the last year where a straight man pretends to be gay. The word that best describes all of them is "lame." For some reason, American filmmakers seem unable to mold this premise into an intelligent or amusing film. Fortunately, the French do not have the same problem. *The Closet* is a delightfully wry French farce in which a boring accountant pretends to be gay in order to save his job at a condom factory.

Francois (Daniel Auteuil) can't do anything right. His teenage son and his ex-wife won't take his calls, he has no social life, and he's about to be fired from his job. As Francois tries to summon the courage to jump from the balcony of his apartment, his new neighbor Belone (Michel Aumont) comes to his rescue. Averting the suicide, Belone invites Francois over for a drink and helps him hatch a plot to save his job. The gay Belone will simply transpose Francois' head onto some photos of a bare-bottomed leather queen hugging another man in a bar. Once the photos reach his place of employment, the owner of the factory should find dismissing Francois too politically incorrect to accomplish.

Everything goes as planned, resulting in a comedy of perception. Francois the mild-mannered dufus suddenly becomes the object of wild speculation from his peers. And the firm's raging homophobe, Felix (Gerard Depardieu), is told by his enemies in the company that he will soon be fired instead of Francois. Felix's co-workers tell him the only way he can save himself is by becoming Francois' best friend. These efforts cause Felix to have a nervous breakdown after several hilarious one-on-one encounters.

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Daniel Auteuil in Francis Veber's *The Closet*

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS







## THEATRE

# Channeling Broadway

## Shorenstein Hays Nederlander's gay CEO Gregory Holland

by Richard Dodds

When Greg Holland was being interviewed for his first job with a big-time theatrical outfit in Houston, he told his future boss that he was gay and that he would be taking his partner to any functions where spouses were expected. But when he was ready to sign on as CEO of the Shorenstein Hays Nederlander Organization, the company that operates the Curran, Orpheum and Golden Gate theaters, he didn't bother with any pronouncements.



Gregory Holland: a love of theatre

"Being gay is not extraordinary in San Francisco, and that's exciting to me," Holland said. "It's even different than it was in New York."

It wasn't San Francisco as a gay mecca that drew him to his new job, but rather the chance to reconnect with his love of theatre. As senior vice president of programming and operations for the SFX Theatrical Group, which presents the *Best of Broadway* series in 55 markets across the country, he felt more and more like a corporate executive who could have as easily been marketing as mufflers as musicals.

"This is the last major independent theatrical company outside of New York," Holland said of Shorenstein Hays Nederlander, "and that gives us a greater ability to choose what shows play here, and we are freed from shows in which a larger company may have investments."

In other words, by not being just another city on a corpora-

tion's map, the San Francisco *Best of Broadway* series has greater flexibility in putting together a season that reflects the interest of local audiences, as well as that of the presenters.

"Carol Shorenstein Hays is absolutely the artistic vision for this company," Holland said, "and her passion is plays." The final show in the current season is the Tony Award-winning *Proof*, which Shorenstein Hays co-produced on Broadway and made sure would start its tour in San Francisco. The coming season features August Wilson's *Jitney*, which isn't even a touring production, but rather a part of a cooperative production agreement with Seattle Repertory Theatre. That's a highly unusual collaboration between a regional nonprofit and a commercial *Best of Broadway* series.

Holland helped work on both these projects, part of the hands-on experiences he was hoping his new job would entail. As CEO, he also oversees the staffs that manage the company's three theaters, helps choose the shows that will fill those theaters, and works with the company's theatrical investment business.

In that final category, for example, the Shorenstein Nederlander Hays Organization will be an associate producer of Cameron Mackintosh's acclaimed London revival of *Oklahoma!* when it opens on Broadway next season. It should give San Francisco a leg up in securing the tour for the following season, Holland said.

Also in the possible pipeline is Charles Busch's *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, which Shorenstein Hays helped produce on Broadway. "And like everyone else in the universe, we would love to finalize plans to have *The Producers* on the 2002-2003 season," Holland said.

There are currently about 15,000 season subscribers to the series, and while the company hasn't done a demographic study on gay audiences, Holland knows what his eyes tell him. "It's easy to stand in the common areas of the

theaters," he said, "and realize we have a huge contingency of gay men and women attending most of our events."

Holland, 38, grew up in rural Oklahoma, which was more receptive to an incipiently gay and theatrically-minded farm boy than you might imagine. "My older cousin would dress me up in tutus and we would leap across the farm, probably to the chagrin of my relatives, but no one ever said anything," Holland remembered. "And when I was 5 and Diannah Carroll had her TV show *Julia*, there was a Julia doll with a nurse outfit and a go-go outfit, and I had to have that doll, and my grandmother bought it for me for Christmas. I look back on that and think, 'God, what was everyone thinking?' So they always knew."

His parents also fed his love of theater, and even suggested he attend an acting conservatory if that was his dream. But Holland decided that he lacked the discipline to be a performer, and when he graduated from the University of Texas in Austin, it was as a theater major with an emphasis in theater management. Even before graduating, he helped renovate a 1914 vaudeville house in Waco, and became the managing director of the Waco Hippodrome Theater.

But after eight years in New York, Holland and his partner of 10 years are unshakable urbanites. "It was hard to imagine leaving New York," Holland said, "but Tracy and I looked at each other and said, this is our opportunity to live in the other city we love. So it really wasn't a hard decision to make at all."

### Mini-review

Rebecca Gilman is a hot-butto playwright who has delivered warmed-over drama in *The American in Me*, having its world premiere at the Magic Theatre. Gilman first created a buzz with her racism exposé *Spinning into Butter*, and she garnered more ink for her stalker drama *Boy Gets Girl*.

But *The American in Me* has only the fizz of a TV-movie as it looks into an infertile couple's desperate efforts to get pregnant. Cardboard characters, easy-target stereotypes, and a surprisingly untheatrical structure provide easy-to-take drama that evaporates the moment it's over.

Getting the newest Gilman play was a coup for the Magic, but it looks like the buzz stops here.

### Short scenes

The seldom-seen *The Cat and the Fiddle*, with songs by Jerome Kern and Otto Harbach, is next up for 42nd Street Moon. Bill Fahrner and Susan Himes Powers star in the 1931 musical as a Romanian classical composer and an Ameri-

can jazz composer who spar before making beautiful musical together. Greg MacKellan directs the staged concert, opening July 6 at the Eureka Theatre. Call 255-8207.

The Venus Rising Company will apply its effective no-frills approach to *Little Me*, opening July 5 at the Leshner Center in Walnut Creek. The 1962 musical launches a new season that includes a gay and lesbian performance and reception for each of the four shows. *Chicago*, *Passion*, and *Triumph of Love* will complete the season. Call (925) 943-7469.

Stars Patti Lupone and George Hearn and director Lonny Price will talk about their concert version of *Sweeney Todd* at the San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum at 2 p.m. July 21. The \$20 tickets include refreshments. Call 255-4800. The musical is being performed July 19-21 at Davies Hall with the San Francisco Symphony and Chorus.

The San Francisco Mime Troupe opens its 40th summer season on July 4 in Dolores Park with *1600 Transylvania Avenue*. The new comedy takes a satiric look at how the current resident of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue may have been created in a lab by titans of big business. A full schedule of free performances in area parks is available at [www.sfmt.org](http://www.sfmt.org). ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at [BARstage@aol.com](mailto:BARstage@aol.com).

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# 'Nothing' matters

Bill Irwin does Beckett for ACT

by Richard Dodds

If you want to see Bill Irwin and laugh, wait for his return in *Fool Moon* in July. If you want to see Bill Irwin and think ... and think and think and think ... you may want to take a flier on *Texts for Nothing*. It's a show about everything or nothing or both.

Taken from an obscure and opaque collection of musings by Samuel Beckett, these verbal sleights of hand were written to be read, and whatever theatricality they possess is thanks to Irwin's existential-clown creativity. But even fueled by Irwin's talents, a noticeable number of first-nighters at the Geary Theatre chose not to tough out the conundrums, despite the show's brief 65-minute running time.

The fact is, a little of Beckett's wordplay goes a long way. "Suddenly, no, at last," the first words Irwin utters, possess a contradictory energy that begins to flag as the device is repeated again and again. "Soon I won't be here yet," he says later, to diminished results.

The most accessible moments in the ACT production come even before the first words are spoken, as Irwin's sad-sack character tries to find an awkward peace with his onstage environment of insurmountable hills and water-filled potholes. Irwin is like a silent-movie genius in the flesh.

But Irwin doesn't just rely on his



Bill Irwin in *Texts for Nothing*, 'like a silent-movie genius in the flesh.'

emotive physical prowess. He explores the cascade of words with a variety of deliveries, sometimes with the unnatural inflections of a computer-generated voice, at other times with a deceptively casual naturalness. But, however he says Beckett's words, his character is clearly a man out of sync with his being.

*Texts for Nothing* emerges as one of the most challenging shows seen at ACT in several years, and its fit with the theater's generally

adaptable audiences may be strained, at least based on opening-night reactions. But the delightful *Fool Moon*, opening July 20 with Irwin and David Shiner, should serve to salve the theatrical trials of *Texts for Nothing*. ▼

*Texts for Nothing* will run at the Geary Theatre through July 15. Tickets are \$15-\$61. Call 749-2228.



Lisi DeHaas in *Studly*: the lesbian version of Sally Bowles?

## Another Annie

'Studly' at Venue 9

by Richard Dodds

In *Studly*, her new show at Venue 9, Lisi DeHaas has several intriguing stories to tell, but no clear sense of how to pull them together. The notion of sturdiness is occasionally evoked, but as an umbrella concept, it's a leaky one.

The central character in *Studly* is a San Francisco cabaret singer named Lulu who imagines herself the lesbian version of Sally Bowles. Like Sally, DeHaas is hardly a world-class singer, a discomfiting situation when she tries to deliver a song straight, but which is less troublesome when she applies parody lyrics to popular show tunes.

The melody from "Tomorrow" is the vehicle for her cynical little-girl memories of seeing *Annie* with her father, who cried when Andrea McArdle belted out the musical's optimistic anthem. It's a moment that foreshadows her father's coming out as a gay man years later, which develops into a major subplot that remains only obliquely connected to Lulu's saga.

That happens again with a

Broadway chorus dancer named Bunny, who becomes a major player in *Studly* despite her tenuous connections to Lulu. In fact, it is Bunny, struggling to overcome the death of her lover, who provides many of the 70-minute show's most memorable moments, despite a Jewish-housewife accent that doesn't ring true to the Broadway-veteran character.

It's a problem that afflicts several of DeHaas' characterizations, including Lulu's reasonably sophisticated father, who sounds like a truck driver here, and a girlfriend afflicted with a cliché case of Valley Girl Speak.

Directed by Ginger Eckert, the production has imaginative touches, including a mute assistant (Paul Loper) who weaves himself in and out of the action. Jude Navari offers satisfying accompaniment from an onstage piano. But *Studly* is finally a showcase for DeHaas' talents as a writer and a performer, a showcase that is only sporadically satisfying. ▼

*Studly* will run at Venue 9 through June 30. Tickets are \$12-\$15. Call 289-2000.

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## FILM

## The Closet

◀ Arts cover

ters with Francois.

## Comic turns

*The Closet* is written and directed by Francis Veber, the man who adapted the original French *La Cage aux Folles* for the screen. Here his writing and directing are both restrained, keeping the actors sufficiently in line so the story doesn't turn into meaningless parody. Daniel Auteuil and Gérard Depardieu, both accomplished dramatic actors, render wonderfully comic turns in *The Closet*. Auteuil's work is most remarkable for its subtlety. It's a joy to watch Francois reel from one unexpected encounter to the next, maintaining his essentially dour and humorless personality while experiencing moments of extreme happiness as barriers that once constrained him suddenly disappear.

Thierry Lhermitte and Gérard Depardieu in *The Closet*

The shifts in perception that lie at the core of *The Closet's* humor involve those people around Francois who not only see him differ-

ently, but begin to see themselves as profoundly changed by the evolving nature of their relationship. With only minor exceptions, Francois becomes more interesting to everyone once they perceive him as gay. But when he is beaten up by homophobic co-workers wearing ski masks, the social stigma of homosexuality also becomes apparent.

The film does a credible job of categorizing both the commercial and personal consequences that result from Francois' coming out of a closet he never really entered. Ultimately, it is a journey of empowerment for Francois. And in spite of the humor that keeps this farce moving, there are some thought-provoking situations that should keep the audience talking long after the lights come up. ▼

*The Closet* opens at the Clay on Friday, June 29.

Daniel Auteuil and Michele Larroque in *The Closet*

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# Rock us, Amadeus

## SF Symphony showcases Mozart

by Philip Campbell

After more than a decade, the San Francisco Symphony has decided to launch a summer festival celebrating the life and music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Michael Tilson Thomas said recently, "We would be poorer indeed without Mozart's deep humanity." So after five seasons which have seen him explore the music of Mahler, Stravinsky and American mavericks, MTT has stepped aside to welcome Sir Neville Marriner to the festival podium.

It might have been instructive to see where our fearless leader stands on the performance of Mozart's as-

tondly varied works, but having one of the world's best known interpreters in his place has proven a happy substitution.

Tilson Thomas is, uncharacteristically, taking the entire summer off. He will not be idle, as he plans to spend the months before the new Symphony season writing his own music and studying. Next year he will devote a festival to the music of Russia. For now, it's all Mozart all the time, and a refreshing return to the basics.

Even those unfamiliar with the classics recognize the genius of Mozart, and they usually know Marriner's name as well. As founder of the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, he has enjoyed a long and illustrious inter-

national career. He made his SFS debut in 1977 conducting a series called *Mozart and Company*, a forerunner of the famous *Mostly Mozart* concerts. For many of us, he provided our introduction to the fascinating world of Amadeus.

The current festival began last week with a symposium featuring a conversation between star soloists mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade, pianist Emanuel Ax, and academic and writer Peter Gay. The opening night was a pleasantly informal affair, light on scholarship but strong on charm and amusing anecdotes. There was also just enough well-performed music.

Von Stade stole the show with her unforced delivery and special



Pianist Emanuel Ax

blend of artistry and wit. She remains a remarkably handsome woman with a beautifully preserved voice and warm sense of humor. Having her chat with her chum Ax about performing Mozart beat any number of dry lectures on the subject. Holding forth on the pleasure of acting "trouser" roles (girls playing boys in the Shakespearean way) and how singers have it easy compared to instrumentalists, "Flicka" made the evening.

Gay and Ax's contributions were by no means unimportant. Gay has written the recent *Mozart, a Biography*, and he is an enlightening speaker as well. Ax may be a little unimpassioned at the keyboard, but his careful technique is admirable in the classical repertoire.

The second half of the symposium was given over to a satisfying rendition of the String Quintet in G minor featuring well-known orchestra members cellist Peter Wyrick and violist Geraldine Walther. The other chairs were ably filled by their SFS colleagues: Yukiko Kurakata, violin; Amy Hira, violin; and Nancy Ellis, viola. Von Stade's knowing interpretation of "Non so più" from *Le nozze di Figaro* may have been the highlight of the concert, but the Quintet sent us out of Davies Hall with a sweet appreciation for Mozart's glorious chamber works.

The following night brought Sir Neville to center stage, and from the first weighty notes of the Overture to *Don Giovanni*, he had the audience rapt in admiration for his trademark Mozartean style. "Authentic" performance practices pale in comparison to his brisk and full-blooded approach. There was a noticeable bloom on the string-playing, and every detail in the rich orchestral writing was articulated without obviousness.

Ax returned to play the Piano Concerto No. 22 in E-flat major. He has an easy way with the demanding challenge Mozart offers his soloist, and the central Andante—one of the composer's most beautiful utterances—was especially well-played. Perhaps this was not standing-ovation performance quality (though he got one), but it was deeply satisfying.

The next night's concert was called *From Opera Stage to Concert Hall*, even though two of the later symphonies were performed. Fully descriptive or not, the title sold a lot of tickets for von Stade's return to sing concert arias and the wonderful "Parto, parto" and "Deh per questo istante solo" from *La clemenza di Tito*. Looking resplendent in white, the beloved mezzo received an enthusiastic ovation upon her first appearance, but she was not in perfect voice. But von Stade made up for the slight edge on her upper notes and strenuous way with the passagework in her emotional involvement.

Accompanying von Stade at the piano, buried in the orchestra, was her buddy Ax. Some bit player! Marriner must be aware of the gracious diva's devoted following, too, and he allowed her assumption of the starring role, even if his concert-opening Symphony No. 35, *Haffner*, was altogether more successful.

After intermission, Marriner regained control with a balanced and lovingly paced Symphony No. 39 in E-flat major. The late symphonies are miracles, and Marriner, after a lifetime of practice, still manages to appear fresh and willing to re-examine their riches.

The festival concludes this week with pianist Lars Vogt performing the Piano Concerto No. 24 on Thursday, June 28, and the Piano Concerto No. 27 on Friday, June 29 & 30. Thursday will also showcase the breathtaking Symphony No. 41, *Jupiter*, and the Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro*. The weekend features the *Requiem* with the SFS Chorus and soloists Heidi Grant Murphy, Susanne Mentzer, Stanford Olsen and Michael George. ▼

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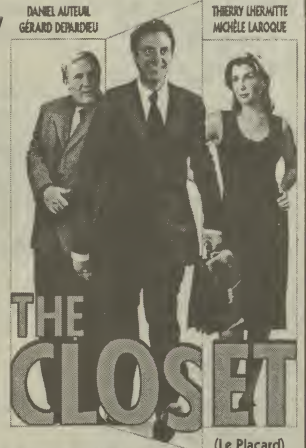
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## DANCE

# Thirty-two reasons why

by Stephanie von Buchau

Mark Morris' *L'Allegro, il penseroso ed il moderato: A Celebration*, ed. by Jeffrey Escoffier and Matthew Lore; Avalon, \$50

Despite the crass commercialism that invades every part of our lives — have you heard about the cybernut who is offering \$2 million for nude photos of Ichiro, the Seattle Mariners' star Japanese outfielder? — it is not easy to be cynical about this book. Yes, it's expensive, coffee-table-pretty, with fabulous color prints done in Italy, and there are certainly no comparable books for single masterpieces by George Balanchine.

Yet if you have seen Morris' *L'Allegro, il penseroso ed il moderato* — it played UC Berkeley in 1994 and 2000 — you know that the authors, the contributors and the dancers quoted are not just whistling cash register when they claim that this evening-length modern ballet changed their lives.

*L'Allegro* has been referred to as "a fully realized imaginative world" (critic Dale Harris), as "the hidden soul of Harmony" (after poet John Milton, who wrote the

two odes that form the main text for Morris' work) and "a work of art that has made many thousands of people feel proud to belong to the same era" (critic Alastair Macaulay). Macaulay compares *L'Allegro* favorably with *The Sleeping Beauty* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, citing its "cosmic/human, comic/trans-

and turns his 24-member cast into an hilarious *tableau vivant*. They become trees, a coach, dogs (peeing on the trees), huntsmen, and the two quivering vixens fleeing the melee. It is audacious and touching, having less to do with "choreography" (which annoys the hell out of Morris detractors) than with a superb, inventive sense of theatre and an encompassing humanity.

It's easy to get sticky about the classical morality that informs all of Morris' work, even its disconcerting aspects — child abuse (*Lovey*), vampirism (*One Charming Night*), random cruelty of fate (*The Office*) — yet at the risk of repeating myself, for I have written about this before in these pages, the single most moving section of *L'Allegro* (at least for me) is "The Walking Duet." (All 32 parts have titles, sometimes literal, sometimes jokey, bestowed by the dancers themselves.)

## Morning is broken

The sublime duet "As steals the morn upon the night" is one of only two sections of "Il moderato" (verses added to Milton's odes by Charles Jennens when he arranged the piece for composer George Frideric Handel) that

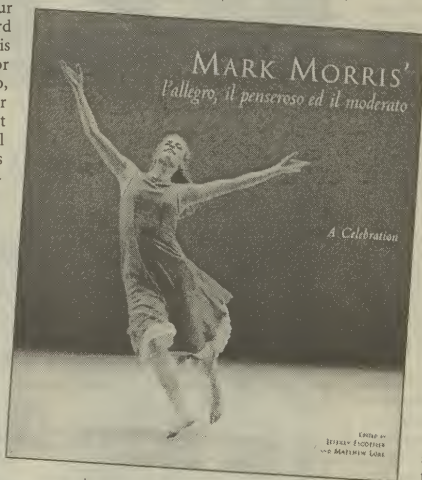
Morris sets to dance. Because it is for tenor and soprano and the melody is so beautiful, we automatically think "love duet," though the words are fusty and nonsensical. To a steady, treading bass, Morris creates a Thracian line dance in which two sets of 12 dancers move in patterns that multiply endlessly, inventively, stirring every feeling you've ever had about community, group cooperation, comradeship, and platonic love. It makes me cry every time.

I'm not sure how this book will affect those who haven't seen *L'Allegro*, except maybe to make them envious of us who have. But even if you've missed it so far — Mark Morris Dance Group keeps threatening to retire it because it is so expensive to produce, but don't despair; they said the same about *The Hard Nut* — you can still learn a lot about the work, its genesis, and its meaning in the cultural and critical lives of the people it has touched. And make

no mistake, this is a genuine big deal to those for whom dance is a major artform, and it appears to have recruited those for whom it wasn't until they first saw *L'Allegro*.

After a short intro, the authors turn the podium over to Accolla, Morris' biographer and still the critic who understands him the best. She is also, as you can learn from reading her essays on dance and books in *The New Yorker*, the least pompous serious critic in America. Her moral and artistic insights are grounded in tough reality: "There are major artists who have no taste. ... Morris, the supposed *enfant terrible*, is not one of them. He judges things nicely. If he did your living room, he would do a good job."

As have the authors of this book. The articles bookend an enthralling photoessay that covers all 32 parts of the dance. Notes, bibliography and performance history complete this major addition to your dance library. ▼



scendent" duality.

Each contributor — the authors, essayists Joan Accolla, Wendy Lesser and Macaulay, and the individual dancers — has a favorite part of *L'Allegro*. Mine is the hunt sequence, in which Morris does away with props and scenery



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## Francis Veber

◀ Arts cover

but at the heart of the film Veber is out to make us more than just laugh. Here is an astute observation of how once straights learn we're gay, they no longer react to us as individuals, but instead try to mangle us to fit into their absurd stereotypes.

"You're right," Veber agrees in the coffee shop of the Soho Grand, where our *tête à tête* is taking place. "I'm not using gay to try to be funny or commercial. It's not a choice. Sometimes you have a premise that arrives in your mind, and you say, 'Oh, God, this is interesting.' Actually while writing *The Closet*, I recognized that being politically correct is changing quite a bit, but of course, not as much as I say in the film."

### Talking issues

Taking a sip of his coffee, he continues sternly, "I discovered that this is a very serious issue. Did you know that in 38 states in America, you can be fired from your job if you are gay or lesbian?"

I note how good ol' sodomy is faring just as well. Veber nods and persists: "So what I'm telling you is the fact that the manager of this condom factory is scared not to be politically correct. He's not firing this make-believe gay man because he's afraid of the consequences. This is a fantasy compared to what the reality is."

"What I hope," he adds, "is that other people will start understanding that you don't have to judge people on their private lives. Judge him or her on the way he or she is working. This was what interested me. I was not intending to write a gay movie or a straight movie, but I'd certainly love to hear that *The Closet* has transformed some bigots."

Veber, who's dressed smartly in black, will head for West Hollywood when his publicity tour is over. There he lives seven months of the year, often bicycling about, unrecognized, in spandex shorts and a tight shirt.

"No one recognizes me because I'm anonymous in Los Angeles. I'm less anonymous in Paris. This is the reason I came to LA."

I note how fit the low body-fat Veber is for a director. How his hair is perfectly coiffed. And how attractive he is for a helmer — unlike, say, Orson Welles.

Veber laughs: "But I have less talent." ▼



Michel Aumont, kitten, and Daniel Auteuil in Francis Veber's *The Closet*

## Test your A.I. IQ



A few questions remain unanswered about Steven Spielberg's film based on an unrealized Stanley Kubrick project, *A.I. Artificial Intelligence*. These include:

If Jude Law (right) as a Cybertronics robot stud gets wet, by sweat or by saliva, do his circuits short out? Who does his outfits?

Do Haley Joel Osment as robot boy David and his supertoy teddy bear and protector Teddy sleep together? If so, do they supercuddle?

Are the pointy, rocket-cone breasts of robot chick Ashley Scott (left) silicon or circuit-board?

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## BOOKS

# Inside Gavin Lambert

British expatriate novelist enjoys a resurgence

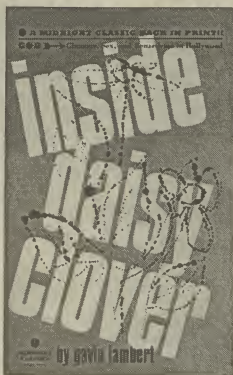
by Glen Helfand

Usually I get stumped by a question in those pop-psych personality profiler quizzes — "If you could have lunch with anyone, who would it be?" With a whole planet full of possibilities, how do you make that decision? But lately, the choice seems easy. I'd love to have lunch with Gavin Lambert. As a British expatriate novelist, screenwriter, and biographer of some of the more interesting queer figures in Hollywood, I'm sure he'd have plenty to say.

Lambert can be seen as a role model as a writer, and as a gay man, who knows how to grow old with grace. Or at least he knows the added mystery and appeal generated by not featuring his picture on the dust jackets. In his novels and nonfiction, he creates a persona of the quietly observant writer with a wry smile, keen insights into human nature, and a sharp but gracious wit.

Over the last few years, Serpent's Tail has been reissuing his novels (with covers by SF's own Rex Ray) originally published from the early '60s on, which are wry takes on the entertainment industry, complete with a real-life population of randy gay characters. I got hooked when I read *Inside Daisy Clover*, a rise-and-fall-of-a-child-star story that later was made into a film starring Natalie Wood. It quickly entered my list of all-time favorite novels. The 1963 novel has all the appeal of *Valley of the Dolls*, as the "pint-sized singing sensation" main character has a Neely O'Hara magnetism and a roller-coaster ride's worth of career peaks and personal slides, yet Lambert's prose is a helluva lot more incisive than Jackie Susann's.

Lambert revels in character studies, especially those strange sorts who are shaped by their fermentation in LA smog and dreams of celebrity-hood. He ex-



cels at tangentially intertwined LA character studies in *The Slide Area* of 1959 and the 1971 *The Goodbye People*, both collections series of short narratives about Norma Desmond, movie industry scions turned beach bums, beautiful, twitchy producer's wives, and bisexual hippies who all coexist in the same barren landscape — like Joan Didion's California characters as seen through the cultured smarts of a British transplant a generation older, whose friends included Christopher Isherwood and Paul Bowles.

He's that bemused Michael York/ David Niven gentleman/scholar/ martini-drinker character who, with his draft-dodging longhaired younger boyfriend,

goes to a '60s rock concert in a field in Malibu and makes fitting observations of the band and the scene: "The mascaraed leader wore a bright, destructive smile. Later, he teased, threw and broke things. Then phallus-shaped balloons labeled BLOW ME floated out, followed by grotesque dolls of cops and generals, eyes and teeth and limbs missing. People threw flowers and kissed each other."

## Driven mama

Lambert feels a bit more comfortable in classic Hollywood milieu, even if he does relish the evolving nature of the place. Twice he's created rich life stories of fic-

but guilt-free beach read.

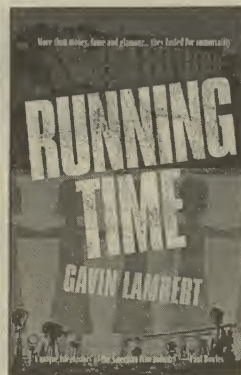
Like most of Lambert's books, this one revels in the peculiar social and architectural details of Los Angeles, starting in 1919 when the mother/daughter duo take the train from the Midwest to budding Hollywood, and witness newly built Mediterranean-style bungalows and rickety new film studios. As the narrative effortlessly stretches to the 1980s, we've encountered enchanted sex-and-drug parties, true-life Hollywood scandal, dashing gangsters and real-estate schemes you'd wish you were in on. At the end of this one, as the aging star drives home from receiving her career-capping

**Lambert is a role model as a writer, and as a gay man who knows how to grow old with grace.**

tional female child stars, the crux of *Daisy Clover* and the recently reprinted *Running Time*. The latter is a sprawling Hollywood saga that comprises the 20th century-spanning careers of a silent-movie child star and her extremely driven stage mama. Written from a dual first-person perspective — Mom's diary and daughter's late-in-life parallel recollections — it's a page-turner with enough smarts, sex and accurate Hollywood history tidbits to make it a high-calorie

"achievement" Oscar at the Dorothy Chandler pavilion, she cruises the teen runaway and drug dealer-infested early 1980s incarnation of Hollywood Boulevard. "My own star lay at a safe distance from the action, in the quiet nowhere block east of Vine, by the entrance to the store that used to sell sex books and recently switched to punk clothes."

It's pretty apparent that Lambert, a longtime LA resident (with a decade-long foray in Morocco),



has seen these shifts first-hand — and did his research homework. And he does an equally convincing job when he turns his mind to real-life Hollywood subjects. He's written biographies of the legendary Alla Nazimova, director and gay royalty George Cukor, and, in his latest, *Mainly About Lindsey Anderson* (published last year), he tackles the British director, a lifelong friend. That book offers some revealing autobiographical insights that heartily add to his desirability as a lunch date. He was unashamedly queer in his pre-WWII British boarding school days, wrote about film long before the auteur theory even existed, and had a passionate affair with bipolar, bisexual film director Nicholas Ray, among other enviable things. He recounts these experiences with a level head and insight, the kind of wisdom that comes with age and engagement with the world. If he's not available for lunch, I sure hope he's working on a self-help book. ▼

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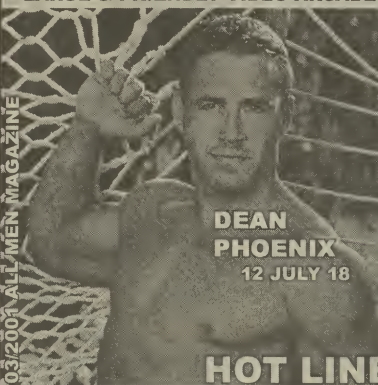
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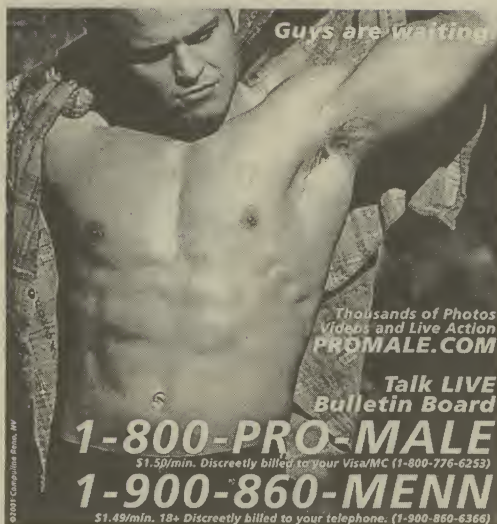


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# A night at the races

Actor Paul Walker is fast, furious and hot

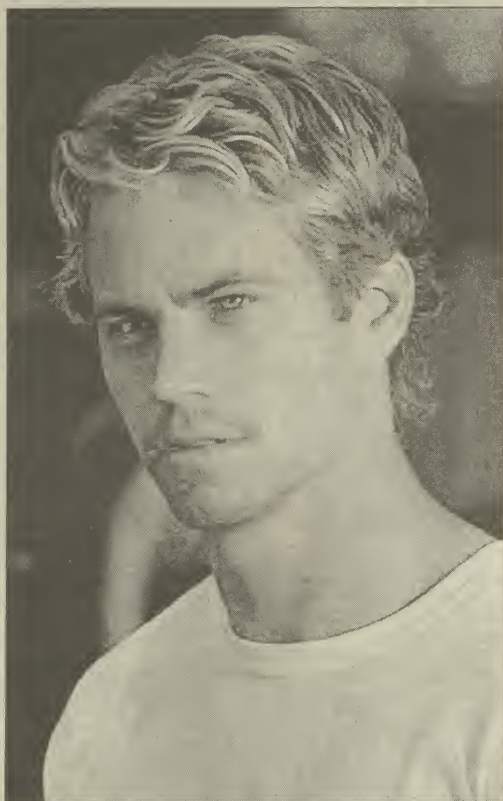
by Tim Nasson

Those familiar with the gorgeous man's man Paul Walker know that his greatest passion in life is surfing. Since none of the movies he has starred in so far (*The Skulls*, *Varsity Blues*, *She's All That*) have given him the ability to show off his surfing talents, he is content to explain in great detail his experiences of falling off waves and crashing into sand. While others his age have tattoos and piercing which they're proud to display, Walker has many scars to prove his love for surfing, and he's not too shy to reveal them. Lifting his T-shirt and turning around, he exposes his tanned back and proudly proclaims, "This is my newest one." He received the gash on his lower back, now scabbed over, when falling off a big wave on the Southern Californian coast. His back and arms are scarred with many other memories of the wild waves.

Walker admits he is 27 going on 19. It doesn't hurt that he was blessed with genes to help that notion along. "My mother was a model and my father was a two-time Golden Globe when they met," Walker says, perhaps explaining his uncommonly good looks and penchant for the wilder side. "My license is suspended right now for too many speeding tickets," he admits hesitantly. "I am the king of the illegal U-turn. I still drive, though. I have to drive. How else would I get to the waves? I probably drive over 30,000 miles a year, all the way up and down the Southern California coast in search of the perfect wave. I am very mobile."

I tell Walker he'd better watch out, driving without a license. He'd certainly be the most popular prison inmate if he got caught.

Walker's latest film, *The Fast and the Furious*, takes the world of illegal drag racing to new speeds. "I loved working with Rob [Cohen] on *The Skulls*, and told him that I wanted to work on his next film, no matter what it was," Cohen had read a story in *Vibe* magazine about illegal street-racing and decided to turn it into a big-screen



Paul Walker: 'Racing is so sexual. How can it not be?'

treatment, replete with a story of undercover cops, murder, gangs, robbery, love and redemption. And Cohen had nobody else in mind for his lead other than Walker. "He is a teen heartthrob who has grown into manhood with a great combination of male beauty, intelligence, heart and testosterone," Cohen says.

"He said that? Well," Walker says, slightly embarrassed, "I don't know if I want to be called a beauty. Maybe handsome, but not beautiful."

## Body work

Walker made his professional acting debut on television's *Touched by an Angel*. That small guest role landed him roles in films and instilled in him the love for acting. "I love epic action movies."

Before landing the lead in *Fast and the Furious*, Walker drove fast, but always in domestic cars. The cars featured in his new movie are all imports with expensive enhancements to both body and engine. "I had to get one of those," he says. "I bought a Nissan Skyline. I had it imported from Japan. It had to be revamped, though, before I could drive it. All that EPA garbage. I had side-impact beams put in, too. It's in the shop now, though, because I burned the clutch."

To practice for his role, Walker dove into the underground drag-racing scene. "It's crazy, really," he says of the thousands of black and Latino teenagers, boys and girls, who line their cars up each night in a deserted part of Los Angeles, mostly near warehouses, to see who is the best. "It's only 10 seconds and a quarter of a mile, but those 10 seconds are what these kids live for. They spend thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours on their cars for a 10-second

rush. But I guess to them, it's like surfing to me. Racing is so sexual, too. How can it not be? With all that speed. It awakens just about every sense in your body."

One night, while watching the illegal races, Walker was chased by the police. "They just swarm in on you if they find out where the races are," he says. "I was in this really scary part of town where three freeways meet each other. It was easy for the kids who had cars to escape, but I had ridden there with some dude who was part of the scene, and he took off. I was by myself. The cops were in their cars chasing me while I was on foot. It seemed like a real movie. I got away, though. They could only drive one way on the freeway, so I ran the other way and finally got picked up by the dude who drove me to the races. He came back looking for me."

Though Walker has worked in New York City, modeling and acting, he does not see himself as a permanent resident there. "I am an LA boy. I am always struggling in NYC to find a piece of the sky. Forget about any plant life. Whenever I find a bush, I bow down and pay homage to it," he says, laughing.

Walker can't wait to get back to surfing. "I don't have much time right now. I have to talk to guys like you to promote the movie. Too bad we couldn't have done the interview on the waves," he says.

In his next movie, *Joy Ride*, Walker plays a bad ass who impersonates a girl.

"Yeah, I get to pretend to be a girl, but I don't have to dress up like one. I only change my voice. *Joy Ride* is about two dudes driving across the country harassing truck drivers on their CBs. We pretend to be girls, and lure them to truck stops." ▼



# Queer record club

## Part 1, Men's division

by Gregg Shapiro

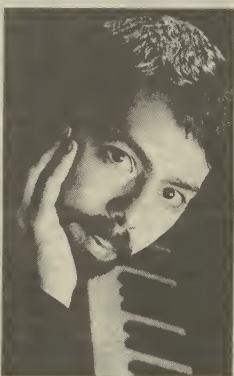
Every year there seems to be more and more queer music being released. This year is no exception, with new releases from such familiar names as Rufus Wainwright, Amy Ray of the Indigo Girls, and the long-awaited full-length musical debut by Lea DeLaria, as well as countless newcomers. It's great to see that the queer music industry is alive and well, in spite of being virtually ignored by the major labels.

Openly gay singer/songwriter David Lasley's name will probably be familiar to you if you are an avid reader of liner notes. Lasley has sung backup for Cher, Bette Midler, Joni Mitchell, Bonnie Raitt, Aretha Franklin, Chaka Khan and James Taylor. His distinctive falsetto is his trademark. Lasley is also a gifted songwriter, his songs covered by Patti LaBelle, Anita Baker, Boz Scaggs, Whitney Houston, Tina Turner and Natalie Cole. Lasley released a couple of major-label albums during the mid-'80s but never achieved the fame he deserved. On *Expectations of Love* (Expansion), his first album of new material in 10 years, Lasley hasn't lost his knack for writing and performing timeless and soulful R&B ballads and pop tunes. Standout tracks include "What's It Gonna Take," "Revelations," "Dancin' on the Smooth Edge" (previously covered by Whitney Houston), the same-sex love song "Joey (I Believe in Our Love)," and the gorgeous "Love's Forever." To complete the David Lasley experience, it's well worth getting hold of *Back to Blue-eyed Soul: Collected Works 1966-1999*, which compiles 21 tracks, many of which are out of print, from over the course of Lasley's remarkable career.

The late Peter Allen had many claims to fame. An opening act for Judy Garland in the early '60s, Allen had the distinction of being briefly married to Garland's daughter Liza Minnelli. As a songwriter, he co-wrote hit pop songs such as "I Honestly Love You" (recorded by Olivia Newton-John), "Don't Cry Out Loud" (recorded by Melissa Manchester), and "I'd Rather Leave While I'm in Love" (which was recorded by a multitude of artists, including Dusty Springfield). *The Best of Peter Allen* (A&M) features his covers of the above songs, which appeared on the studio discs he recorded for A&M from 1974-80. Other original Allen classics "Quiet Please, There's a Lady on Stage," "I Go to Rio," "Everything Old Is New Again," and his wonderful cover of "The More I See You" are also included on this "20th-century masters" collection.

### Top songs

Jazz pianist Fred Hersch has already established himself as a master of the ivories. His latest album, the expansive three-disc



Jazz pianist Fred Hersch

set *Songs Without Words* (None-such), probably won't do anything to tarnish his reputation. Disc one is comprised of 10 original Hersch compositions. The second disc features Hersch's interpretations of jazz standards by a remarkable array of composers, including Thelonious Monk, Duke Ellington, Wayne Shorter, and Charles Mingus. Hersch devotes the third disc to one composer, Cole Porter. "From this Moment On," "Don't Fence Me In," "Every Time We Say Goodbye," and "You're the Top," are a few of the Porter songs to which Hersch adds his distinctive touch.

Composer Esteban Ramirez performs all of his original compositions on piano on his album *Welcome Home* (Descanso Music). Highlights include "Sandbox," which also features strings, the romantic "Dinner For Two," and "New England." Ramirez's rendition of "Over the Rainbow," the album's only non-original tune, is also a pleasure.

*The Fine Print* (Noble Savage) is Mark Islam's highly anticipated second album. Islam, who divides his time between LA and Nashville, infuses his songs with the sounds of both cities. Islam's pedal-steel country-pop with Tex-Mex strains is pure Nashville. "Trick" and "The Well of Loneliness" (co-written by OMA-winning composer Jon Gilbert Leavitt) sound like something out of the LA singer-songwriter scene of the '70s. Leavitt also makes a guest appearance on the stirring song "Treading Water."

I first became aware of David Driver from his work in the band Meow, of "My Marine" fame. In his latest incarnation, Driver is fronting the Driver Quartet on their album *Night Time* (Comma), a collection of lush and loungey near-standards and established classics. Adam Bern-

stein, who plays bass in the quartet, penned a few original tunes for this album, the best of which is "Room for the New," on which Driver gets to belt, and "A Long Way Down." Other songs worth mentioning include a reimagined cover of Paul Simon's "Me and Julio Down by the School Yard" (with Peter Kiesewalter's terrific accordion work), a dramatic reading of "Imitation of Life" (from the movie of the same name), and an equally dramatic version of "Moon River."



Khan

### Exotic dancers

Not many artists are capable of releasing two albums in one year, but that's exactly what Khan did in 1999, when both *1-900-Get-Khan* and *Passport* were issued. *No Comprendo* (Matador) is Khan's first album in a couple of years, and it features appearances by recurring guest vocalist Julee Cruise (on the sweet "Say Goodbye"), as well as Kid Congo Powers, Diamanda Galas and Jon Spencer. If you prefer your dance music to be on the exotic side, then you will have no trouble comprehending Khan's *No Comprendo*.

On his debut disc *Archangel* (Original Cast), Michael Vaccaro exhibits both his campy and clever side with the choices he made in retro cover material. The album opens with his discified cover of the DeFranco Family's "Heartbeat, It's a Lovebeat," and it's fol-

lowed by a respectable rendition of Bette Midler's "Hurricane" (from her *Thighs & Whispers* album), as well as Vaccaro's version of the Abba staple "Dancing Queen" and the uplifting "Makin' It." Unfortunately, the more current material, a majority of which was written by Vaccaro's co-producers Jeff Olmsted and Brian Gari, isn't as successful. Vaccaro's reading of Randy Newman's "Sandman's Coming" is worth a listen.



Elton John

I still haven't forgiven Elton John for appearing on stage and performing with Eminem at the Grammy Awards earlier this year. But to many in the gay and lesbian community, he is still something of an icon. They'll be happy to learn that several of Elton's back catalog albums have been reissued in remastered and expanded editions on Island/Mercury. The best of the batch are 1992's *The One* (his last album of consistently good material) and 1978's *A Single Man* (with the single "Ego" as a bonus track), as well as 1989's *Sleeping with the Past* and 1983's *Too Low for Zero*.

Dance-floor focused David Mahr is at work on the follow-up to 1999's synth-soaked EP *Lost & Found* (DMM). The three song promo-only sampler features Mahr's cover of Yaz's "Only You," and two promising original tracks, "Sugar Candi (What You Mean To Me)" and "Century." ▼

# Queer record club

## Part 2, Women's division

by Gregg Shapiro

For something like 30 years, lesbians have been more visible than gay men when it comes to recording and releasing albums in the realm of independent queer musicians. While there are more out male performers than their have been in the past, women still dominate.

Educated at both Harvard and the Berklee School of Music, Kate Schutt has released an amazing and inventive disc of cover tunes, *Brokenwingtrick* (Wild Whip), which will have you rethinking several songs you already know. Schutt does write her own material, some of which she has included as unlisted bonus tracks; however, her skills as an interpreter have impressed me the most. You will never listen to the songs "Rebel Rebel" and "Like a Virgin" the same way after hearing Schutt's acoustic punk versions. The same holds true for her hard-folk rendition of "Freeway of Love," her take on "This Must Be the Place (Naive Melody)," the stripped-down sound of "Here

Comes the Rain Again," and most especially her guitar/jazz/vocal vision of "What's Love Got To Do with It." Schutt co-produced the disc with fellow Berklee grad Leon Lim and got the album's title from gay author Tom Spanbauer.

Out lesbian vocalist Gaye Adegbalola is one-third of bold boogie-woogie trio Saffire: The Uppity Blues Women. Ann Rabson and Andra Faye are the other two. Their *Ain't Gonna Hush!* (Alligator) contains "Blues for Sharon Bottoms" (with the chorus, "How low/How low/You know/Sharon B's mama is a baby-stealing so and so") is about the lesbian mother who lost custody of her son.

Tret Fure's name is tied into the history of the women's music scene. On *Back Home* (Tomboy girl Records), Fret sings new compositions that sound like timeless folk songs, complete with her stellar guitar playing. "This Train," "Angel of Love," "Willing," "Coming Home," and "Ancestors," a story song, all feel like they belong in a songbook of standards. This album also contains the last two songs that Fure wrote with her

former partner of 20 years, Cris Williamson. "Bring Up the Girl" and "Closer to my Sons" are both fitting additions to Fure and Williamson's beloved canon.

Heather Eatman evokes a modern blues sound on a few tracks on her album *Real* (Eminet). "Train," with its slide guitar and "Motown foot stomping," is more than a little suggestive of the blues, and her cover of Willie Dixon's "Spoonful" couldn't have been any bluer if she'd tried. Still, Eatman sounds like a born pop songwriter, as you can hear on "Heaven Help Us," the Rickie Lee Jones-ish "Mixed-Up Girl," and the haunting title track.

Jenn Adams has a knack for story songs on her album *In the Pool* (White Boxer). Songs such as "Joliet," "Everything Good," "Maggie Tabasco," and "Mozambique is Burning," are the proof. Her choice of cover material, Julie Miller's "Speed of Light" and Dylan's "All Along the Watchtower," are also exemplary. Celia, her partner, who is thanked in the liner notes, co-wrote two songs with Adams, "Not Tonight" and "All these Attachments." ▼

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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare by Mark Mardon



Venus of Minneapolis dark glam band All the Pretty Horses

## Venus is coming!

What is it about Minneapolis? The city keeps sending us colorful alternative queers. Some of my raver friends come from there. They tell me of a huge rave scene in the Midwest, populated with queer youth like themselves. They're cute as bugs, quirky in all sorts of intriguing ways, savvy, funny, and a real plus for the local ecstasy economy. They live to hug and be happy.

Now Minneapolis is sending us All the Pretty Horses, one of the country's most colorful goth-glam rock bands, the project of transgendered performance artist, filmmaker, painter and poet Venus, who formed the band in 1996 by combining his background in visual arts with his passion for glam rock.

By coincidence, I got hit from two different directions with news of the impending arrival of Venus. The first report came from Adrian Roberts, lead singer of Blue Period and the impresario who masterminds and hosts the monthly glam-rock club *Glitz* at the Paradise Lounge (that's in his spare time, when he's not designing this newspaper and editing his own *Piss Clear* newspaper to be distributed to the dusty, wind-blown masses at Burning Man). Adrian is a bit kinky, and loves fetish parties, the ones where black vinyl, leather and latex rule, where corsets and harnesses and whips and cockrings are adornments on androgynous beings with fluid sexualities. With *Glitz* an instant hit in a city craving the most far-out, wickedly fun scenes possible, Adrian has been able to showcase some fabu bands, and he's just been waiting for the right time to present All the Pretty Horses, which he first encountered at a popular fetish club in Minneapolis.

The other person to alert me to Venus's SF gigs was David Pomi-je, one of my Minneapolis connections, who came here a year or two ago to immerse himself in poetry, performance, film, music, and whatever underground art scenes he can find. He's the editor/publisher of the poetry zine *Rape of Narcissus*. It so happens he and Venus are tight, and so David called me up with breathless enthusiasm to alert me to the visitation of Venus.

I concur with Adrian and David when they declare All the Pretty Horses a superior act. The band's latest album, *Ruin* (Skindog Productions) burns holes in the darkness of goth. Venus and his cohorts evoke the spirit of Black Sabbath, with heavy guitar doing lots of '70s psychedelic riffs in a melange of semi-melodic noise, with Venus on guitar and Pandora on bass. At times the songs almost go downtempo, but they never lose their hard, glamorous edge. ▼

All the Pretty Horses perform at *Glitz* on Saturday, June 30, 10 p.m. at the Paradise Lounge, along with Blue Period (Info: [www.blue-period.com/glitz](http://www.blue-period.com/glitz)). Venus & Pandora from All the Pretty Horses will also be at Door 43. See Friday.

## Er

### Santa Clara County Hall of Justice, San Jose

Community rally on behalf of AIDS activist Brian Carmichael, who is awaiting sentencing in San Jose for an incident where police upgraded his charges when they found out he is HIV-positive. Gay and AIDS activists will meet at the Santa Clara County Halls of Justice at 12:30pm for a rally. The sentencing is at 1:30pm. God knows what will take place after that. Come join others in expressing support for Carmichael. 190-200 W. Hedding, San Jose.

### Jon Sims Center for the Arts

AIRspace artist in residence Carolyn Cooley performs a workshop production of "Passion of the Bees," an ambitious musical passion play that weaves text, music and movement to create a modern parable told by bees, about queens, priests, drones, fornication, funerals and honey production. Followed by audience/artist discussion. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLÖF). 1519 Mission St. Tix/info: 554-0402; [www.jonsimsctr.org](http://www.jonsimsctr.org)

### Herbst Theatre

America's Favorite Dragapella Beautyshop Quartet — The Kinsey Sicks — return for a one-night concert of their a cappella harmonies, outrageous costumes, and hilarious stage personae. \$18, \$24, & \$30. 7:30pm. 401 Van Ness Ave. Tix: City Box Office, 392-4400, or BASS, 478-

### Yerba Buena Gardens

The Italian Cultural Institute presents Alessandra Belloni performing traditional folk dances of Southern Italy — especially the tarantella, a wild and erotic ancient dance of purification thought to give protection from the mythical bite of the tarantula. For 20 years Belloni has participated in summer drumming festivals in honor of the Black Madonna and as part of purification rituals. She is the only woman in the US and Italy who specializes in Southern Italian singing, dancing, and tambourine style. Free. 12:30-2pm. Third & Mission streets. Info: 788-0242; [www.sfiic.org](http://www.sfiic.org)

### The Next Stage

Johnny Kats, the comedy improv group, presents "Moulin Rude." Members of the cast and crew represent diverse identities of sexual orientation, ethnicity, and twisted humor. \$10 adv.; \$15 door. Located at Bush & Gough streets. Tix/info: 704-3261; [www.acteva.com/go/johnnykats](http://www.acteva.com/go/johnnykats)

### Door 43

The USDA (Underground SoMa Drama Association), Kiner Productions, and the letter D and numbers 4 and 3 present a gathering of poets, playwrights, musicians, artists and other creative souls. All are encouraged to participate — read spoken word, sing, dance, act, play or otherwise emote. Special cameo appearance by Venus and Pandora from All the Pretty Horses (they'll be performing with full band at Club Glitz on Saturday June 30 at the Paradise Lounge). Free (donations welcome). 10pm.

#43 Dore Alley (btwn 9th & 10th, Howard & Folsom; ring top buzzer). BYOB.

### The Thick House

R/evolution Theatre Company presents the Northern California premiere of Judy Soo Hoo's "Texas," a darkly comic play with an Asian-American view of the American West. Steven "the college boy" (Samuel Sheng) comes to stay with two whacked-out brothers, Duke "the butcher" (Feodor Chin) and Danny "the kid" (Robert Wu), who live in a cramped trailer on the flats of Texas. During a night of vicious psychological and physical games, Steven learns the awful truth about the brothers and their secret past. He is ultimately forced to pit one brother against the other to escape their world. Directed by Kelvin Han Yee. \$18 Fri. & Sat.; \$15 Thu. & Sun. 8pm (7pm Sun.). 1695 18th St. (at Carolina St. on Potrero Hill). Info/tix: 401-8081; [www.texasplayhomestead.com](http://www.texasplayhomestead.com)

## Sat

### Bridge Theatre

Peaches Christ hosts a "Midnight Mass" screening of *Nine to Five*, a revenge comedy in which office workers, Lily Tomlin, Jane Fonda, and Dolly Parton rebel against their sleazy sexist boss. Audience interaction encouraged. \$7. Midnight. 3010 Geary Blvd. Info: [peacheschrist.com](http://peacheschrist.com)

### Martin Luther King Jr. Park, Berkeley

"Brower Day," celebrating the legacy of America's environmental hero, David Brower, sponsored by Earth Island Institute, the City of Berkeley, the Ecology Center, and KPFA Free Speech Radio. Bring the whole gay family to this outdoor festival in celebration of the Earth and one of its foremost defenders, the late David Brower. Fun for all ages, genders and sexualities

includes an Eco-Restoration Decathlon, Environmental Action Faire, Sustainable Crafts Market, and delicious organic and vegetarian food. Lee Stetson will perform as John Muir in the Schwimley Theater adjacent to park, 12:30pm and 2pm, followed by a special screening of "In the Light of Reverence" by the Sacred Land Film Project at 3:30pm. Free admission. Martin Luther King Jr. Park on MLK JR Way (at Allston and Center streets, next to the Berkeley Farmer's Market), Berkeley. Info: (415) 788-3666, ext. 260; [www.earthisland.org](http://www.earthisland.org)

### International House, Berkeley

Earth Island Institute hosts its "5th Annual Party for the Planet." Join in this annual evening of celebration for planet. Feast on gourmet, organic cuisine; groove to the Senegalese beat of quartet Kasumai Bare; enjoy free Tarot reading, Henna art and more. All funds go towards Earth Island's work to protect the environment and the annual Brower Youth Awards. Tickets: \$50. 7-11pm. 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley. Info: (415) 788-3666, ext. 260; [www.earthisland.org/party](http://www.earthisland.org/party)

### SFMOMA

"Red Typhoon: A Modern Mixer," a cocktail party for Contemporary Extension (CX), a dynamic group between the ages of 21 and 40 who share an interest in modern art and who support the Museum by attracting younger members. Tonight's party will have an Asian-fusion spirit. Party organizers will transform the Museum's Schwab Room into a bazaar showcasing the myriad flavors, smells and sensations of Asia. Featuring DJ and performance artist Saiman Li; contortion acts by Madam Ming; a performance by White Crane lion dancers and musicians; and celebrity drag queens (no names given). All supporters of the arts welcome. \$45 CX members; \$65 adv. gen'l adm.; \$75 door. 8-11:30pm. SF Museum of Modern Art, 151 third St. Info: 357-4086; [www.sfmoma.org](http://www.sfmoma.org)

### Kelly's Mission Rock

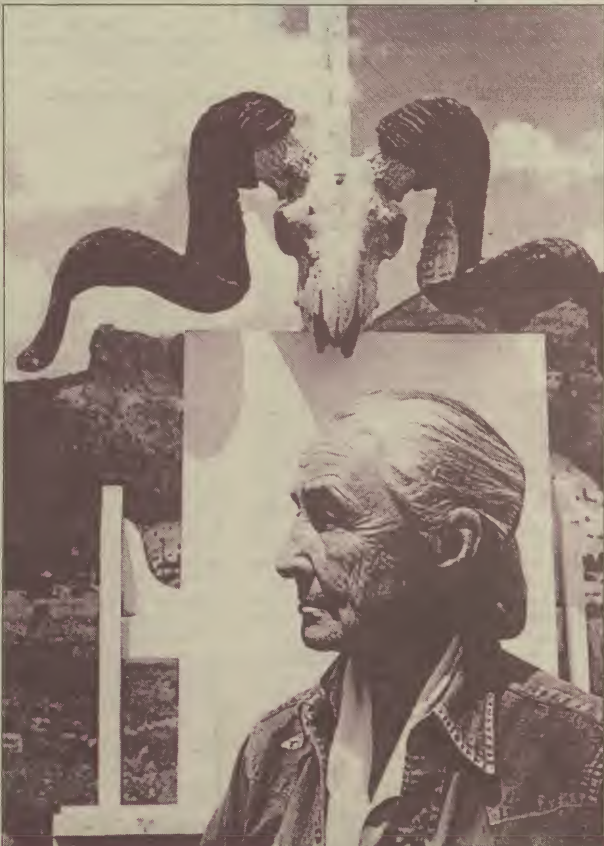
Thump Radio and Blowfish present "Atomic," an all-night dance party featuring DJs Kenni (Team Spliff/Laszo/Hooks), Stefan Luke (Opium Garden, Miami), Frenchy le Freak (Butter, SF/France), Lorin (Bassnectar.net/Thump Radio), Vajra (eyephunk, SF), and Masonic (Thump Radio). Bring your funky clothes and a great attitude. 21+ w/ ID. Midnight-6am. 817 China Basin Way (off of 3rd St. & Mariposa). Info: 441-1899; [www.thump-radio.com](http://www.thump-radio.com)

### Barry Singer Gallery, Petaluma

Opening reception: "Arnold Newman: A Grand Tradition," an exhibition of photographs by the "Father of the Environmental Portrait" because of his ground-breaking images of subjects in their personal or professional settings. With 24 *Life* magazine cover portraits, Newman's iconic portrayals of Picasso, Georgia O'Keeffe, Marilyn Monroe and Igor Stravinsky often constitute our mental images of those people. He is still actively photographing today. Free. 5-7pm. Thru Aug. 4 at 7 Western Ave., Petaluma. Info: (707) 781-3200; [www.singergallery.com](http://www.singergallery.com)

### Gangway Bar

"Tranny Talk," the transsexual talk show. Come out and see trans-woman Kitty Kastro perform and show you all a good time. Featuring a 50/50 raffle and lots of tits and ass.



Georgia O'Keeffe, Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, 1968, by Arnold Newman. "father of the environmental portrait," exhibited at Barry Singer Gallery in Petaluma. See Saturday.





At the Bridge Theatre: Lily, Dolly, and Jane (on the set of *Nine to Five* with director Colin Higgins). See Saturday.

Watch "Tranny Talk" on local SF cable TV Channel 29 every first Thursday at 9pm. Come out and take part in making history. Entertainers welcome; call Tranny Talk Hotline for sign-up: 441-2140. Also needed: donations to be raffled off. Party starts at 7:30pm. Located at 841 Larkin St. (btwn O'Farrell and Geary streets).

## Sun

### SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for a Fall Creek loop hike in Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. Enjoy the redwoods, jungle-style ferns, and 19th century lime kilns. It's a moderate 8-mile hike with a 1,500-ft. elevation gain. Meet 8:45am under the Safeway sign at Market & Dolores streets. Club info: 487-6410; www.sfhiking.com

**Sigmund Stern Grove**  
Stern Grove Festival presents a free performance by the San Francisco Symphony, with guest conductor George Daugherty. Featuring Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Duke Ellington's *Suite from The River*, and Chen Gang and he Zhanhao's *The Butterfly Lovers* Concerto with guest soloist Jiebing Chen on Erhu (Chinese violin). Free. 2pm (arrive real early to claim a picnic space). Also: check out the al-

ternative energy and environmental awareness fair from 10am-4pm. 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd. Info: 252-6252; www.sterngrove.org

### Sadie's Flying Elephant

"K'vetsh," a queer open mike for poets, storytellers, and other performers, hosted by Lynnee B. and Tara Jepson on the first Sunday of every month. \$1 admission. 9 pm. 491 Potrero (on the corner of Mariposa)

### The East Gay Cafe, Oakland

All freaks, vegans, and rad queers are invited to a "bi"-monthly brunch with music, dancing and cheap vegan food. It happens every first and third Sunday. A benefit for "Queerupture 2001," an October weekend of workshops, roundtables, infoshare, art showings, spoken word, music, sex, and communication of ideas across boundaries of race, culture, class, sex, gender, politics. Volunteers and food donations needed. Donation requested at door (NOTAFLÖF). 12 noon-4pm. 1137 32nd St. (at Adeline), Oakland. Info: (510) 239-2239, ext. 2477.

## Mon

### Theatre Rhinoceros

Qcomedy.com presents "Monday Night Gay Comedy" in a

new location, the intimate Theatre Rhinoceros. Hosted tonight by Mike Ureyga, with laughs from Pippi Lovestocking, Julia Jackson, Lisa Geduldig, Yayne Abeba, Amma, and featured closer Bridget Schwartz. Shows will be every other Monday in July. \$10 cover; no drink minimum. 8pm. 2926 16th St. (at South Van Ness). Info: 541-5610.

## Tue

### Club Eros

Workshop: "Tantric Masturbation." Learn and practice tantric masturbation together; ride right on the edge; reach higher consciousness and the most intense stimulation possible! Free each first Tuesday of each month. 7:15-9:30pm. 2051 Market St. For info and ground rules, email: sacred-tool@yahoo.com

### Pacific Bell Park Pier

WonderBoy Productions presents "Crew: Red, White & Cruise," featuring DJ/producer Frank Abraham. Party on a triple-deck boat with three dance floors, laser show and sound system. Expect to cruise with lots of hot 'n' hunky guys. \$35 adv.; \$40 door 8pm-midnight (boarding begins at 7:40pm; cruise leaves at 8pm sharp). Tix from hosts, Body Body Wear, or online at www.wonderboyproductions.com

## Wed

### Eureka Theatre

Preview: 42nd Street Moon presents "The Cat and the Fiddle," Jerome Kern and Otto Harbach's 1931 musical about two composers weathering a stormy romance together. The score is regarded as one of Kern's most unique and beautiful, and includes the hits "The Night Was Made for Love" and "She Didn't Say Yes." Starring Bill Fahrner as Victor and Susan Himes Powers as Shirley, with Patrick Leveque as impresario Clement Daudet. \$15 previews (also on July 5); \$22 Thu.; \$25 Fri., Sat. & Sun.; \$19 seniors/students. Opens July 6. 8pm (6pm Sat.; 2pm Sun.). Tix/info: 255-8207; www.SeatAdvisor.com; www.42ndStMoon.com

## Thu

### Venue 9

"A Few Gay Men: True Stories from Real People about Sex, Love, and Life," created and directed by Ronnie Larsen (*Making Porn*; *10 Naked Men*), starring John Fisher, presented by Caryn Horwitz and Jared Scott in association with Footloose at Venue 9. A documentary style theater piece featuring gay men discussing intimate details about their sex lives, relationships, coming out, etc. Based on real interviews conducted by Larsen three years ago in NYC. \$15-\$20. 8pm Thu., Fri., Sat.; 7pm Sun. 252 Ninth St. (near Folsom). Info/tix: 468-3399; ticketweb.com

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Robert Wu, Samuel Sheng, and Feodor Chin get down and dirty in Texas at The Thick House, on Potrero Hill. See Friday.



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# Celebrations all around

by Mister Marcus

Gay pride prevailed all across the country last weekend as cultural, athletic and political gatherings took place in conjunction with Pride Parades and Celebrations from coast to coast, with dozens of elaborate dinners, brunches and beer busts staged in the name of charity.

Last Friday night, June 22, almost 500 people of the leather persuasion, as well as many who have a uniform fetish, showed up in the Green Room of the War Memorial Building in San Francisco's Civic Center. There they displayed uniforms both foreign and domestic, of every description, and partook of a lavish buffet. The always-welcome City Swing Orchestra with Gail Wilson got the dancing going with her signature rendition of the perennial favorite, "Tangerine."

The Phoenix Uniform Club greeted guests with a reception line clad in spiffy black leather uniforms, and almost all the guests were decked out in full regalia. It was grand all right. The most outstanding visage was the former Empress Sheba, who was wearing a gown by Galliano that had all the other drag queens green with envy. She was escorted by her handsome Emperor T.J. Istvan. Also a sight to see was Parade Grand Marshal Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt in a corner, chatting with Mr. SF Leather Houston Davenport and Mr. Los Angeles Leather Peter Fitz — three beautiful people in a beautiful setting.

The buffet dinner — complete with an ice sculpture — was superb. City Swing wasted no time setting a tempo that had people swirling on the floor with utter abandon. Gail Wilson was in fine form. The night outside was a star-studded background for the



Pride Grand Marshal Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt chatted with Mr. SF Leather Houston Davenport (left) and Mr. LA Leather Peter Fitz on Friday, June 22 at the Phoenix Uniform Ball.

beautiful, brightly lit dome of City Hall.

The Phoenix Uniform Club scored a big night to remember.

### At the parade



Bazaar

Volunteers in the civic center toiled all night Friday to set up the booths, stages and miles of cable for the booths and entertainment stages at the Pride Celebration. By noon on Saturday, the Civic Center was bustling with celebrants getting a jump on Sunday's big crowds.

Sunday dawned bright (but a little windy) as thousands gathered in the staging areas to get in place for the parade. Thousands of motorcycles revved up, with the Dykes on Bikes contingent full of fervor for their appearance at the head of the parade.

In all marching contingents, last minute fluffing was taking place. The Gold's Gym bodies were sprayed with gold dust. The bare chest calendar men were

given their brand new vests. In the leather contingent, polishing rags appeared to stiffen up boots and bikes. The coterie of the leather faithful arranged themselves before, around and behind Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt, ensconced on a golden chariot pulled by leather-clad muscular boys and decked out in brilliant blue and white plumage.

Soon the full leather contingent was marching and riding down Market St. In places along the route, parade watchers were standing 20 deep, craning their necks to see the leather contingent pass by, dangling from poles, perched on bus shelters and standing precariously on BART and MUNI walkways. Loud cheers greeted the marchers and floats and smiles galore from young girls and guys marveling at the pulchritude on the bare chest calendar float. It was a fun day for everyone.

Celebrants hell-bound to have fun took up almost every possible inch of space in the Civic Center. Music blasted from several stages

next page ►

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

### Weekend, June 27-July 1

It's Big Bear Weekend at the Lone Star Saloon. Thursday is a Bears in Boxers party from 2000 to 2300. Saturday, June 30 is the Mr. Lone Star contest; and Sunday, July 1 is the Bay Area Cub Contest at 1600. For more info, email [IntlBear@aol.com](mailto:IntlBear@aol.com).

### Saturday, June 30

In Boston? Check out the New England Leather Alliance 17th Annual Fetish Fair/Fleamarket at Boston Center for the Arts. For more info, call (617) 876-6352 or click on [www.nla-newengland.org](http://www.nla-newengland.org).

The 15 Association monthly play party at the usual location. Doors open 2100-2300. It costs \$15 for guests, who must accompany you. For invite and location, call 673-0452 or email [Howard@sfo.com](mailto:Howard@sfo.com).

### Sunday, July 1

San Franciscans MC beer/soda bust at the Eagle, 1500-1800, for \$8 including "gourmet" barbecue hamburgers, potato salad, watermelon, plus all the suds you can handle.

In mid-town Sacramento, the Sacramento Valley Leathermen pancake breakfast takes place from 1000 to 1330 at Faces. For only \$5 to benefit five local charities. For info, call (916) 338-3760. Alexander Hamilton Post #448 American Legion 15th anniversary gathering in Room 202 of the War Memorial Bldg., from 1700-1900. Formal attire w/full regalia requested. For info, call 824-2971.

### Wednesday, July 4

The San Franciscans MC host a \$7 beer/soda bust at the Eagle, 1500-1800, featuring beef kabobs, rice, salad, corn on the cob and watermelon — a

great way to celebrate Independence Day!

Leathermen's Discussion Group at Club Eros at 1930 tonight. The subject: "Leather As A Fetish," a topic I suspect many of you can relate to. Also, the history and future of leather as symbolic of dominance and masculinity.

### Thursday, July 5

In Seattle's Town Hall (119-8th Avenue), it's the International Mr. Deaf Leather contest. Doors open 1900, with show at 2000. There's more to this weekend, but no details were available at deadline.

### Weekend, July 6-8

In Baltimore, it's the Mid-Atlantic Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy contests, with a meet & greet, contest night, and victory celebration.

In Los Angeles, it's Bear Quake weekend, with the Mr. So. California Bear Contest and a special appearance by the Backstreet Bears, a singing group. For more info surf [www.bearquake.com](http://www.bearquake.com) or email [bigbear@aol.com](mailto:bigbear@aol.com).

### Saturday, July 7

Mr. Edge Leather Eric Bernier presents "Boot Camp," a beer bust/benefit at the Edge, from 1700-2000, for \$7 to benefit AEF and BCEF. With an auction, scads of entertainment and a "Sexiest Military Image" contest for a cash prize.

### Sunday, July 8

The Castro Lions hold their annual Leather Auction at the Eagle, from 1500-1800, with an \$8 beer/soda bust with food, plus bargains galore to be auctioned off. Don't miss this annual fundraiser!

Golden Gate Guards MC beer/soda bust at the Lone Star, from 1600-2000, for only \$7. A fun time is always had with the Guards and the staff at the Lone Star.



## POLKSTRASSE

## Ch-ch-ch-changes

by Sweet Lips

Lips can't name any names at this juncture, but it seems there are more changes in store for the Polkstrasse bar scene. Rumor on the street has it that two more bars are changing hands, but they will still be gay.

The very popular Charlie is now serving at the plank in Images Mon. and Tues. days. That's right next door to the Giraffe, so drop in, he'd sure love to see his old friends.

The Lone Star Saloon is having their annual Big Bear Weekend,

and believe it, Jerry Olson makes this event huuuuge.

John "Boom Boom" and his better half were at the Club Rendez-Vous the other evening, and it seems so strange not having him behind the bar.

Dickie Deemer reports from the Fire Island Pines that it's a great season so far with lots of beautiful people.

Dick returns to his Ramon in only 9 weeks — that'll be either in SF or in Puerto Vallarta. Speaking of

PV, H.L. Perry is still living down there and still blonde. Aren't we all the luckier for it?

If you're looking for Bob Golovich, he's hanging out at the Club R-V. Sweet Lips, meanwhile, has been spending so much time at Kaiser Hospital that I really should open a bar there.

Next time I'll give the lowdown on Mr.

Lee Ona's July parties, of which there are plenty — right, Pushy Phyllis? ▼

## Cocktail Hour

## Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

and food, drink and informational booths were crammed into every corner of the plaza. At the main stage in front of City Hall, Audrey Joseph kept the action going every possible minute as the crowd roared its approval of speakers and entertainers alike. Nothing like marveling at a real pro keeping the crowd upbeat. The B-52s stole the show, of course. On the shady side of Larkin at Turk, Donna Sachet staged yet another extravaganza of talent. Alas, one man was enraged to discover his 20-ounce, \$9 Margarita tasted like plain lemonade and was planning a major complaint about it.

It was Gay Pride in all its splendor as everyone seemed to be having a great time; even straight families with their kids in tow were a big part of it. Preliminary estimates indicate some 400,000 people took part in the parade

and celebration, but we all know better, don't we?

## East coast news

On the far off East Coast, the AIDS Ride from Durham, North Carolina to Washington, D.C. had a total of 2,218 riders, including Mr. DC Eagle Darrell Moyers, also the first runner-up at IML last May. Darrell raised over \$3,000 and pedaled the long way from Durham to the Capitol Building on the Great Mall. Among the greeters at the finish line was the new General Manager of the Leather Rack, Patti Brown, accompanied by emcee extraordinaire Frank Nowicki.

## Drummer update

Another development over the past weekend: Mike Zuhl, Executive Producer of International. Mr. Drummer, announced the judges for this year's competition, which will be taking place at the world-famous Sun Coast Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida on the weekend of October 2-4.

It will be a delight for me to join the judging panel along with IMD 89 Brian Dawson, IMD Boy 91 Kevin Steadman, Vern Stewart, former IML Chief Judge Thom Dombkowski, the current Mr. Drummer Daniel Clark, and *The Leather Journal* publisher Dave Rhodes.

Be aware that package sales for the Drummer contest finals are going fast. For information on the event and tickets, go to [www.con-test.drummer.com](http://www.con-test.drummer.com) or call (412) 889-9605 between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. Eastern Time.

## Corrections

The new International Master (Jim) and Slave (Marsha) are not heterosexual.

As for the item about a titleholder almost passing out at IML after his favorite contestant did not win the title, he wants you to know his near fainting spell was due to not eating that day, not in disappointment of the results. Further, the contestant in question *did* indeed make the cut. My sincere apologies for the errors. ▼

## Out There

◀ page 26

was more down-home."

Pierson took one look at local artist Jason Mecier's plastic-flower-petal portrait of aged Dolly Carol Channing, which has been hanging in the hair salon for ages, and wrote a check for it on the spot. The rock-star-friendly hairdressers at Glama-Rama are now the B-52s' official left-coast stylists. "We'll take care of their wigs and falls."

## Cocks of the roost

Here's our exclusive soundbite from visiting dignitary John Waters on the wild scene at the Castro Theatre last Thursday night as the remaining *Angels of Light*, along with a host of genderbending drag queens and glammed-out local celebrities, cheered the sneak preview of SF filmmakers Bill Weber and David Weissman's nearly-complete documentary *The Cockettes*: "It was sort of like

going to a high school reunion at a mental institution."

## Paper moon

Sometimes it helps to get a little historical perspective. *Gray Brechin's Imperial San Francisco* (University of California Press), now out in paperback, is a no-holds-barred civic history of how our little cowtown became a corporate power center. The book's slant is best revealed in its subtitle, *Urban Power, Earthly Ruin*. Brechin shows how struggles for mining riches, water rights and empire-building shaped the city we know and (sometimes) love.

Out There's attention was most captured by the chapters on the nasty rise of the *de Youngs* (original owners of the *SF Chronicle*) and the *Hearsts* (original owners

of the *SF Examiner*). It's a colorful history. The caption to a caricature which ran in a rival rag, *The Wasp*, in 1881, gives a pretty good indication of the tenor of the times: "Shortly after his assassination by the son of a minister whom he failed to kill, the ghost of Charles de Young hovers over the Chronicle Building, contemplating the many acts of violence and blackmail on which the de Young brothers built their newspaper."

Muckraker Upton Sinclair once noted that "there exists in America a control of news and of current comment more absolute than any monopoly in any other industry." Brechin describes an early case of the *Chron* putting a competitor out of business: "[Rival journalist] Arthur McEwen had once charged the publishers of the *Chronicle* and the *Examiner* with collusion, and, as it turned out, Michael de Young had not purchased the 'dear old Call.' Rather, he served as a front for a dummy who had either bought the paper for William Randolph Hearst or secured an option on it for him."

Monopoly shenanigans like these were echoed in our own day when the Hearst Corporation bought the *Chronicle* from the de Youngs and set up a pathetic competitor in the *Fang Examiner*. Until publisher Ted Fang's misbegotten millions run out, we're left with the illusion of competing dailies, and horse-trading as business as usual. ▼



The Cockettes directors Bill Weber and David Weissman at the Castro

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San Francisco's Original Erotica Emporium Since 1967

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**We Want Your Leather**

for the 14th annual  
**Castro Lions**  
Leather Auction and Beer Benefit

Sunday, July 8, 2001  
Eagle Tavern 3-6pm  
398 12th St. San Francisco

A San Francisco Tradition of Hot Skins and Cold Beer!

Eat and drink your fill (\$8) and bid on the best leather bargains of the year!

All proceeds to benefit the Castro Lions Charity Fund.

To donate leather call Lion Tom Rodgers, 861-0516 after 6 pm, or bring items to the auction.

**LOADING DOCK**

**Thursday & Sunday Nights DOCK LITE!**

**NO DRESS CODE...wear what you want!...FREE POOL... \$2.00 DRAFT Same GREAT SPACE!**

**THURSDAY NIGHT:**  
**Red Hanky & BARE Chest NIGHT! Show your Red Rag or hot Pecs and get DRINK SPECIALS all night!**

**SUNDAY NIGHT:**  
**Yellow Hanky NIGHT! Fly your Yellow rag and get domestic draft all night for \$1.50!**

**This Friday: Hood Party**  
**Sat. SF's Hottest Leather/Fetish Party**  
1525 Mission St. SF 94103 415-864-1525 [loadingdocksf.com](http://loadingdocksf.com)

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# BAR TALK



photo by Steven Underhill

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Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum

**MAIL FORM TO:** BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

### PARTING GLANCES

**Commonwealth Club- 'Alexander'**  
The Great on 5/17. You admired my turquoise ring and I admired you. Had a nice talk and would like to talk more w/ dinner or movie. ☎ 71320

**N Judah@Church St. Weekdays 8am**  
You: am departing train. Me: WM brown hair & glasses embarking train. We used to smile & wave often. Would like to meet sometime? ☎ 71321

**Dolores Prk & Bay To Breakers!**  
2 days in a row, I couldn't take my eyes off you! You- yellow shorts (5/19) then red shorts (5/20). Me- tall, glasses, baseball cap. Let's finally talk. ☎ 71322

**Edge-Mem Day Sun-2 Men W/Go-Ts**  
Me: Goatee/blue eyes. I followed you to your car; you tooted and drove off; you should have stopped. Somebody should have said something. Call! ☎ 71336

**•Rockridge, Friday, May 25•**  
Our eyes met several times outside Market Hall. You: Asian man, table alone, lap top. Me: White man, chair (no table). Too shy to stop and talk. Can we meet? ☎ 71337

**~5/26-Chevy's 7:00pm~**  
You shaved head, tattoos, and leather coat. You were with two friends. Me gray hair and beard glasses, with friend at counter. Too stupid to speak. Please call me. ☎ 71338

**•Monday, June 4th, 11:00A.M.~**  
Aboard 38 Geary bus city bound at Arguello. Young, tall, Black Adonis- red checked shirt, jeans. You said: "Don't I know you?" My mouth said "I don't think so," but my heart said "WOW!" Me: blonde in black Levi's and mirror shades. Please answer ad, we'll both be glad you did. -Chris ☎ 71354

**"Attn: Paul From Sacramento."**  
Fri. 5/25 you baseball cap with friend Steve/BMW- I was at Starbucks Saturday ten A.M. Please-call. It's worth another try. ☎ 71355

**"N'Touch Friday June 1st"**  
Me: White male from Nob Hill in SF. You from Berkeley with friends from SF (White) and LA (Asian) if still interested please call. ☎ 71356

**~Andronicos (Irving), Sunday 6/3~**  
We talked at cashier. You: attractive blonde, short hair, glasses, nice legs/tan, rubbing calf, buying apples, water. Me: white/blue t-shirt/short. Would love to give you awesome massage! ☎ 71357

**Togos @16th In Portrero June 5**  
1:30pm you were having lunch with a friend and I was having lunch with a friend. Both of us too shy to talk. You: plaid shirt and khakis. Me: clean shaven head blue sweater. Saw you again walking with your friend headed toward the garage. Call. ☎ 71378

**The Hottest Guy In Town**  
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

**Met's Diner @ Metreon Fri. Nite 6/8/01.** I watched your newspaper and stuff- caught you staring, but was too shy- wanna meet? Yes, I glanced back at you as you were exiting. You also looked back! ☎ 71379

**Peet's Coffee@ 16th-Thu-6/14 9A**  
You, handsome, short brown hair, gorgeous eyes. Me, tall, blonde hair and an eye for you. We couldn't stop staring! Call me. ☎ 71400

**Boy In Yellow Sneakers**  
Thursday, June 14th, 11pm. Both got on M train at Powell. I got off at Church. Those lips deserve to be kissed. Put down your book and call. ☎ 71401

**Walgreens, Tues. June 19, @7:50AM**  
Me: VGL BM discreet, smooth, 5'11", 180lbs, clean-cut. Built to perfection, spotted 2 WM. First, tan bl/bl, 5'11", 175lbs, Second, 5'10", 160lbs, bl/bl, red baseball cap, tan, great bod. There was a awesome connection. Too shy to say "What's up!" Would like to connect. ☎ 71402

### SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**ISO HIV+ Little Brother 38yr**  
175# 6'2" looking for skinny White boy for rough housing & tenderness. No drugs, smoke ok. ☎ 71323

**6'4" Very Attractive Thin Model**  
Boy ISO smart. Attractive. Stylish. Straight Acting boys. 18-25. Me, HIV- fun, Artist, straight acting, hung. Looking for versatile/ bottom for some fun. I like White boys. No loco's. ☎ 71324

**Seeking In-Charge Top**  
You: 30-55 yo top, thick, enjoys head, plowing butt, aggressive in bed. Me: good looking, White, in-shape, 44 yo bottom ready to service on a regular basis. Both HIV-, available evenings, into role play, light SM and our imagination. Just for fun or possibly more. ☎ 71380

**~Life Is A Banquet~**  
GBM HIV- lean masc toned, eager to explore life, you GM 25-40 relationship inclined. Likes music, gym, conversation, theatre, deep kissing, versatile. I'm no chicken but this bird is still succulent. Let the feast begin. ☎ 71325

**HIV+ Bottom Seeks SF Top**  
52, 5'6", 140 with s/p, brn eyes. Honest, grounded w/sense of humor about life. Open to any relationship. Looking for good communicator. Prefer 40-58 taller HIV+ in-shape. ☎ 71326

**~I'm Seeking Gigantic Nipples!~**  
Muscular 42 seeks a smooth muscular guy with huge protruding nipples to service on a regular basis. I know how to please. Pleas be serious. "No Games!" ☎ 71339

**"Attention John!"- Asian**  
You responded to my ad #71279, "Suck Buddy" and the Bar system cut your message off before you could give me your phone number. Call again. ☎ 71340

**\*\*\*\*Affectionate Older Men\*\*\*\***  
WLM 45, 6'160lbs. ISO men over 50 who enjoy lots of holding, kissing and oral pleasure! Bearded, moustache, non-buffed, rustic-looks, liberal A+., Smoking, lt. drink ok but no drugs or gay scene. ☎ 71342

**~Class Act 4 Same~**  
GL professional, 50's, tall, well proportioned, bright, humorous, playful, enjoys cooking, theatre and Giants, a romantic, versatile, seeks man of quality for dating and LTR. Life is to share. ☎ 71358

**"Want To Practice Your Spanish?"**  
Latin male seeks GWM under 45 who is active and in shape. No shaved heads, tats, piercings. Me: 36yo, 5'8", 155#, brn/brn, clean-cut, HIV+, prof, athletic runner, cyclist. ☎ 71359

**'Seeking Asian Guy To Date'**  
Muscular GWM, 43 is wishing to date a respectable smooth, in shape Asian guy. Please be responsible, reliable and relationship oriented. No flakes!! ☎ 71361

**Poz GBM ISO Vers GWM Bottom**  
6ft 38 180lbs. ISO affectionate submissive GWM/GLM. Prefer slim, short, small build. ☎ 71381

**"Top, Btm, Oral... It's All Good!"**  
Me: 6', 180lbs, 38, blond, blue. You: Asian, Latino, Mulatto, slim to slight build, 20's-30's, enjoy volleyball, beaches, movies. Not afraid of casual sex if there's chemistry. ☎ 71362

**\*Young Handsome Russian,\***  
Is looking for a cute intelligent European or American boy in his 20's or 30's, to share my body and life. You will not be disappointed. ☎ 71363

**If Your Looking 4 Fun & Sex, I'm 4 U**  
OLGM. 37yrs. 5'8", 155#. brw. skn. masculine, looking for- WGM or LM, under 40yrs, versatile, slim, same proportion if possible. Call now! ☎ 71364

**~Fuck Buddies!!~**  
Hot, masculine, muscular Italian top wants to meet a masculine, inshape, hungry, eager-to-please bottom to fuck on a regular basis. Any race, under 45. ☎ 71365

**Kyle, Lush Lounge, Sunday 5/27**  
Memorial Day weekend. I'm the guy you told your troubles to. Tried to get you a cab, but you walked home alone. Hope all is well. Let me know. ☎ 71366

**The Hottest Guy In Town**  
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

**ISO Mature Men**  
Bearded GWM in SF 60, 5'9" 155# seeks masculine healthy GWM, GLM GBM over 40 for mutual J/D N/S N/D moustache/beard A+. ☎ 71382

**More Than Sex...**  
Want companion. Go out-not into "scene". Handsome, fun-loving, nice body not gymbuffed. Affectionate, likes to be serviced. 45, HIV-, 5'10", 175lbs, br/bl, moustache. Prefer younger but open. ☎ 71383

**Some People? How About Us!!**  
Attractive GLM 43, 158lb 5'9", versatile in-shape. You be similar. Plan (A) let's talk, Plan (b) let's meet, Plan (c) let's do it. ☎ 71384

**3Nite Weekend On Sonoma Ranch**  
45 miles from 66 bridge. GWM husky burley 6'2" Rancher, 55yr, 225# buzzed s/p flat top, beard seeks honest, healthy common sense man companion. Ability to read, write, talk, and think. Important. ☎ 71385

**•Healthy HIV+ Seeks Same•**  
GWM, 39, 5'11", 165#, masculine, in shape seeks non-smoking slim/fit younger guy. I enjoy reading, movies, theatre, hiking, kayaking, Rem, Sting, Chili Peppers. "You....?" ☎ 71341

**GWM Professional, Relocating**  
To Bay Area, seeks long-term relationship/friends. I am an avid movie goer, lover of nature. Love walks in the Muir Woods, by the ocean, dining out, travel, cats, dance and ballet. I have a fetish for nylon/spandex tights and panty hose. Caucasian/Asian/Hispanics please. ☎ 71404

**ISO Creative Beau**  
Requirements: wit, artistry, appreciation of unsaid, no gym memberships, no gay pride, no company boys, no tattoos/piercings. Me: wrtler, 35, 5'10", 155 boyish stylist. ☎ 71405

**Boy The Sea**  
Late 30's, furry butt and pecs, 5'10", 165#, central coast guy, who visits city often, seeks tall tops, HIV neg. preferred. ☎ 71403

**•35 GAM Seeking LTR•**  
5'8", 160, looking for professional GWM under 43 for fun or more. If interested, call please. ☎ 71360

**Salute!**  
The creative live the life! 40 blue eyed European seeks Frenchman aged 20's-40's for friendship or more. Let's meet in San Francisco and or Europe. ☎ 71406

**Oakland Animal/ Plant Lover**  
Empathetic, easygoing, playful, communicative, sensual. Passion for nature, cuddling, homelife. Seek easy-going homeowner. I'm youthful, 53, athletic, straight acting, hairy, 6'2", 185lbs. Very goodlooking, blue eyes, shaved head, big dark moustache. ☎ 71407

**Positive On Peninsula ISO LTR**  
42yr HIV+ 6'2", 200#, blonde, blue looking for possible LTR or just friends, like movies, walks, quiet times at home, beach, not into bar scene. N/S, N/D, call me. ☎ 71408

**Art. Photography, Books**  
Berkeley artist late 60's, passionate, active, healthy, 5'9", 150lbs. 33w. Seeks GWM/GAM slight build 25-40 as ongoing sensual friends. ☎ 71409

**Boysish Cute GAM To Date**  
GAM 30's slim, nice personality, nice looking, masculine boy next door type seeks similar good looking masculine GWM 40's or younger to date poss. LTR. ☎ 71410

### SEEKING ADVENTURE

**•Wear A Toolbelt To Work?•**  
Tall 28yo/o guy, seeks goodlooking, in-shape, straight/Bi Construction worker, who will let me play with his big tool and show me what he can do with it. ☎ 71332



**Touch Stoke Squeeze Shoot**  
Is your favorite part of a massage "getting Off"? I specialize in concentrating on your mid-section w/ intense attention to your cock and balls w/ my mouth and hands. Oiled up & keeping you on the edge of cumming 55, clean/healthy ub2. No \$\$. No reciprocity. Just relax and enjoy. ☎ 71327

**Stacky, Hefty, Chubby, Fat**  
GBM, 48y.o. 5'11", 250lbs. Seeks big men for versatile, uninhibited sexual pleasure. Big, hefty men only. Discretion required. ☎ 71328

**"Be My Sweet Hair Daddy!"**  
GWM, 42, 180# seeks extremely hairy daddy types 40-60 for romance and fun. Must be outgoing and affectionate. Please be hairy! ☎ 71329

**"This Boy Needs Some Lovin!"**  
GWM 42, 180#, romantic, uncult, hairy seeks extremely hairy daddy types 40-60 for romance and fun. Extremely hairy guys please! ☎ 71330

**"Oral Master Seeks Oral Slave!"**  
Young looking-acting mid 70's master-daddy seeks a gld/g 18-45 HIV-slave or son for ongoing light S&M, B/D safe. No anal scenes. ☎ 71331

**The Hottest Guy In Town**  
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

**Att GWM 50 HIV+ Oralist ISO HRD**  
I kneel down and worship. You watch your desire disappear into my soft, wet darkness. Sensual/Slow. Sensitive nips! ☎ 71343

**—Mature Handsome Xpert Sucker—**  
Licking, sniffing, deep throat action. Ass ball crotch wiping-drooling. Fuck my stache/go-t mouth! Hairy-musc, 57", 160#, 50's. Tan body, hungry mouth-throat! Facial hair daddies A+. ☎ 71344

**•Play With My Ass!•**  
I'm 6'4" 195lbs with 9" cut dick. Enjoy being fucked by small men with big cocks. Latino? Asian? Bring it over! ☎ 71345

**"2Big!" Uncut**  
Looking for another relatives for good sex afternoon 7 inches or none-masculine and good shape. ☎ 71346

**Rough-Fuck Boyhole Wanted**  
WM 40 145 HIV+ top. Lean, not beefy, prefer same. Big thick cock, likes hurting holes. You: Fit clean poz small-framed nonhairy total bottom 25-45 craving fast frequent deep brutal fucking. ☎ 71349

**~Cock And Balls Sucked!~**  
You kickback I will service, even if you cut/hung, thick. Possible we both like it. Could become weekly. Me: GWM, healthy, HIV negative. Love to worship cock! ☎ 71347

**\*Just Sex!\***  
Nice SWM, 43/180/6, handsome, in-shape, hairy, br/b, clean, HIV- Neg, & horny. ISO WM, attractive, clean, & HIV-Neg for blow/rm regularly. My place in SF. No reciprocity necessary. ☎ 71348

**"Who Are You?"**  
"Sexual desire is complicated enough without having to be linked to anything else as a condition for phenomenological analysis." Human being seeks same; interested in sex, among other things. ☎ 71350

**~JO Adventure!~**  
Happy, dedicated JO addict seeks same to unabashedly share/explore, prolonged edging fan-out fantasizing, and orgasms. Physical contact unnecessary. Toys, any age ok. Extended mind-blowing. ☎ 71351

**"Asian Guys!!!"**  
Under 50, wanted by trim, fit, HIV+ hung, & HIV-Neg for blow/rm regularly, fit too. ☎ 71352

**"ISO Senior Blacks!!!"**  
GWM 70 seeks Black seniors 60 to 85 for great sex. I'm 6' 170# 7"uncut any scene. Disabled o.k. Heavies A+. ☎ 71367

**\*Weightlifting Nude\***  
Have bench, barbell, dumbbells. Strip down, work-out. Am 48, 5'9", 190. You can participate or just watch me workout. ☎ 71368

**"Just Shut Up And Ride!"**  
WM 36, 5'10" 195lb blond/blue muscle hunk, wants good looking masculine men to screw me or be screwed, anytime. ☎ 71369

**Anonymous Deep Throat Head!!**  
Bi WM HIV- 40's dominant very masculine likes getting off down an expert deep throat in dark private places if your HIV- submissive in shape and hungry. ☎ 71370

**~Worship It Uncut 7"~**  
Spend hours on it with your mouth, hands, and ?? GWM 38, 5'10", 200lbs, muscular. Any age, race, and body type, as long as you're really into it. S 71371

**~Young Cute European Bottom~**  
Is looking for a demanding attractive top or tops to be fully trained anyway he or his friends wish. Be under 40y.o. You will not be disappointed. ☎ 71373

**Shy? Working Out Your Body?**  
Do you like looking at yourself? Feeling yourself? "Good!" Would you like to show it off as I watch & encourage you? Compliment you? Me: handsome Latin 40, house in Sonoma County. ☎ 71372

**"Seeking Verbal Forceful Top!"**  
I am a VGL GBM, tight bottom, 5'11", 170lbs, smooth, swimmers bld. Seeking verbal dominant top. Poss. WS. Please be over 8.5", in-shape. Hairy & husky A+. Please no issues. Long fun only. Out only in S.F. ☎ 71374

**Boys Bottom Seeks Tall WM Top**  
Slender, attractive WM, 29, 5'8", nice shape/butt, sexy anus- seeks tall, fit, well endowed WM top who loves sexy ass. I enjoy pleasing, submitting, crotch worship, tight anal sex. ☎ 71386

**Married / Bi Male A+**  
Very attractive gay male couple, mid 30's, HIV-, fit healthy, (slim GWM & athletic GBM), seek handsome masculine, clean fit, healthy, hung WM/BM for discreet encounters. ☎ 71387

**Homosexual...**  
Mature male bachelor likes sexually dominant in-the-closet males for sophisticated erotic encounters. Married, Bi, ok. Discreet SF location. ☎ 71388

**Hot Bottoms Wanted By Dick Top**  
57 yr old White male want hot White, Latino or Middle Eastern bottoms to fuck. I'm 57 yrs old 6'0" 160lbs drk brn hair, glasses, 9" dick. ☎ 71389

**Hobo Homo!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**  
You've seen me on Market, The Lion... Full beard, wide shoulders, hairy chest, tiny behind, sandals bare feet, sitting on my bottom/frecks. Let's get together, safe fun, more. ☎ 71390

**A1 Oral Service Delivered- SF**  
SF GWM delivers A1 oral service to trim, mature guys who need head, once or regular, with no reciprocity. HIV-; out only. Deep throat. ☎ 71391

**Cross Country Bicycle Tourist**  
Goodlooking, healthy GWM 48 seek buddies across the USA. Love sex, nudism, and outdoors. I love to suck black cock outdoors! ☎ 71418

**Role Play - Hot Fantasy Scenes**  
Hot buddy looking for buddy with good imagination to play out hot scenes: Homework buddies, tutor-student, doctor-patient, brothers. Open to other scenes. 38, 5'11", 175, hairy, Downtown SF. ☎ 71417

**Hot GWM Seeks Hung GBM 4 Fun**  
I'm 29, 6'1" and VGL bottom. Work-out 4x a week, so I'm in good shape. Looking to meet well hung GBM. I'm HIV+ and open to threeways. ☎ 71411

**Ready And Willing**  
Christian GWM 28, 6'2", 190lbs. energetic goodlooking seeking down to earth male who wants a solid friendship, possible relationship. ☎ 71412

**The Hottest Guy In Town**  
Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

**Bottom Visiting 4 Pride Week?**  
Mature, but potent Black top will plug you in your hotel room. Must leave full name. Masculine, experienced, mature bottoms only. Downtown SF and East Bay areas. Hotels only. ☎ 71413

**Mature Hot Manpussy Wanted**  
38y/o well hung uncut BM ISO talented holes for long plowings at your place (45-60). Looks less important than ability. Black, armo, videos, expert oral are pluses. ☎ 71414

**PR Move**  
Bearded WM, 42, seeks "good relations" with athletic Puerto Rican man, preferably with full, muscular buttocks. I'm easy-going, imaginative, generous. Interested? ☎ 71415

**I Want To Get Laid**  
Tall, GWM, 40's, bi/bl, bottom ISO hung top into anal play, nipples, and mutual B/I's. Race/age/build unimportant. Tall, hairy, uncut+ +. No B/S. ☎ 71416

**Mature Masculine Submissive**  
Seeking 40+ dominant for D/S BDSM play. Sub is experienced, intelligent expects same. ☎ 71392

**Oral Master**  
GWM late 40's ISO over 7" any race/age. Long slow deep downtown SF, uncut a real plus. ☎ 71393

**FF Butts Wanted**  
I enjoy playing with an ass that likes fingers and hands or toys fist fucking tapes o.k. too your place 5'8", 185. ☎ 71419

## FETISHES

**After Work Foot Massage**  
Handsome GWM 35, wants to give you and your feet sensual pleasure. Kick back, relax, and do what comes naturally. ☎ 71397

**"Let's F\*ck..... And!"**  
Have a sex orgy, good time, all night long. Looking to meet up with handsome, built well-defined guys who like having group sex with others. You: No attitude or hang-ups. Me: Fine/toned & extremely built, GBM. Please be open minded and non racially impacted. ☎ 71333

**ISO Experienced Vacuum Pumper!**  
Beginner vacuum pumper needs an experienced pumper to be my mentor. Mature caucasian gentleman HIV- 5'9", 150#, 3"cut. ☎ 71353

**Young Slave Boy For Dog Training**  
This cute 27 y.o. boy is looking for a master under 40y.o. to be fully dog trained to his satisfaction. The boy will yield any submission to make a perfect doggy. ☎ 71377

**I Need Your Vote To Win Title**  
Of best Bay Area cocksucker! My compassionate creativity maximizes your (balls) as measured by scientific device that will amaze/delight your dick! ☎ 71394

**Just Hurry Up...**  
Older (48) but hung Oakland area man needs his dick sucked lightning fast, 3-4 minutes. Late afternoons, late evenings. No beads or goates; moustache a plus. Serious only. ☎ 71395

**Pit Buddies Party 2**  
All 14 hot men returning plus we'll selectively choose another 6 to join us. So if you're into it & you've got Great pits, be prepared to prove it with a pit shot photo. (Will take photos for you if need be). ☎ 71420

**Latex Love**  
Play safe! Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. ☎ SAFE

**Collectors**  
GWM 47yrs-200lbs, 6'1" looking 4 other men who like to collect. Call and we will exchange tales. Maybe meet? ☎ 71421

**Use And Abuse Me Hard N Rough!**  
Sub WM 35 5'5" 125 smooth HIV+ . Use my mouth and ass mercilessly. WS,TT,CBT, SM,BD,FF,Rim,VA You: Dom, clean, reasonably fit. Too hung for most? ☎ 71422

**Virgin Fisting Hole**  
Lean, masc, gd-looking 37yr GWM looking for approx. same, and exp. top to carry me over the threshold. Enjoy large toys- ready for the real thing! ☎ 71423

**"Daytime Asshole-Eater!"**  
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! ☎ 71376

**Bear Needs Birthday Whipping**  
Sore butt is a great gift to start a year. Please Help. ☎ 71396

**GWM 46 To Meet Play With GM**  
Into barefeet and oral. Me: 5'9", 180 mid bld masc looks, nice feet, bottom or top you similar. Nice feet. ☎ 71375

**ISO Nipple & CBT Workout Buddies**  
Goodlooking GWM 5'9", 185lbs. 50's workout, regular w/ nice trimmed & shaved crotch. Into nipple play-CBT-mutual oral. ISO guys over 40 into expanding potential NS-ND armo ok East Bay+. ☎ 71424

## COUPLES

**Slender Blonde Smooth Bottom**  
Seeking couples with imagination, stamina and armo- tall muscular studs into daddy scene- coach-uncle. ☎ 71425

## OTHERS

**—Bride The Gap!—**  
GF seeks foreign gentleman professional for mutually beneficial arrangement. Honesty, credibility communication important! ☎ 71334

**~~~~~MEN!!!!~**  
Let's have the hottest sex extravaganza Party in the country. "It's hot and all fine guys are out!!" Looking for interesting guys who like doing such a thing. Have a very open mind horny and willing to go long sessions. A good way to get rid of fuckin stress. Muscular & masculine a must. No fats or fems. ☎ 71335

**Mediterranean Man Sks Bi Woman**  
Attractive bi WM, 29, 5'11", 157#, honest, generous with good hearted bi or lesbian woman. ☎ 71398

**Redheads Rule!**  
Seeking masculine, slender redhead (20-42). Let me (BM, 40's, slender) drop to my knees to service you. Your pleasure is my goal. ☎ 71399

**Bondage & Discipline...**  
Is offered to straight married, corporate types by older, polite, experienced gent. Discreet SF apt. Days ok. Call to inquire. ☎ 71426

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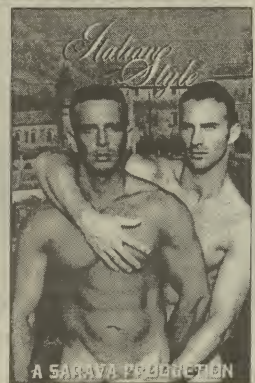
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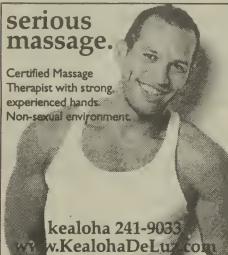
# BAY AREA REPORTER PERSONALS

## MASSAGE



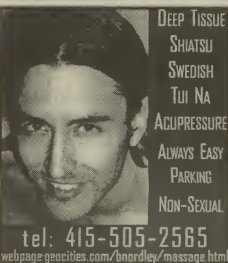
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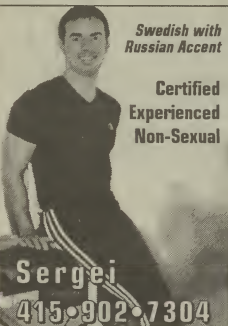


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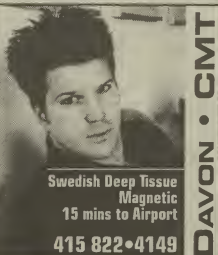
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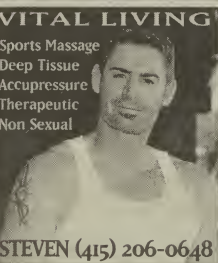
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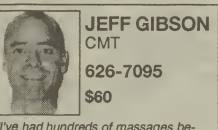
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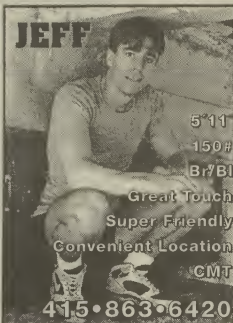
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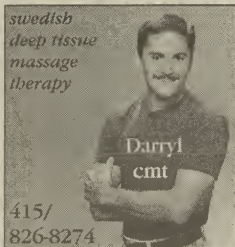
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and friendly service. Swedish, therapeutic and deep tissue massage therapy for men as you like it. Geoff CMT Lake Merritt 510-452-4991, Pgr: 510-970-0720

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Therapeutic & Sensual Bodywork

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Unique style therapeutic and erotic massage in front of a fireplace. Out calls available also. Johnny 505-3060

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Let tension be stroked away with a fully-satisfying sensual massage by a handsome, well-built, experienced bodyworker. Rick \* 207-9045

Sensual Nude Massage by a young

### HOT LATINO BOY MARIO

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Strong, Sensual, Relaxing, Swedish Massage  
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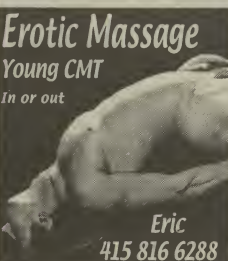


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24 HOURS  
JASON, CMT  
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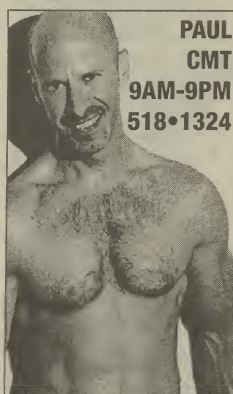


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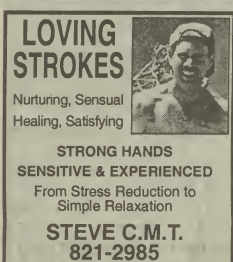
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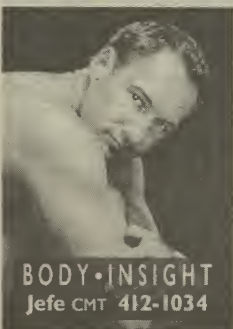
PAUL  
CMT  
9AM-9PM  
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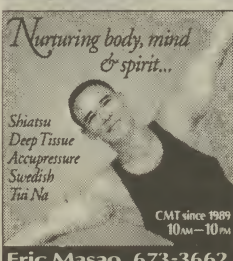
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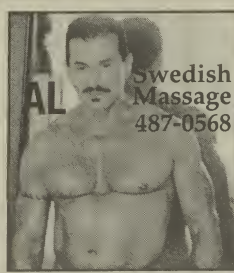
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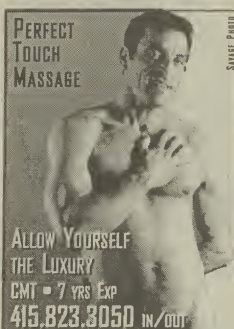


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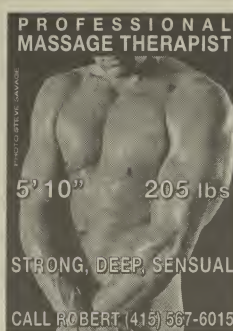
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\$80/\$100 \* JIM 267-1817 E29

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Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk  
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Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs  
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Slender, cute, open-minded. Massage  
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**CHOKE ON THIS!**  
Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs  
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40yo top 6'1", 195# 7" uncut, flattop  
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By good lking, blind/bl, 6' swimmer.  
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Vry gd looking French Mediter.  
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shave Included. Im versatile fun for  
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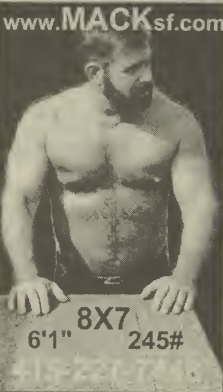
Butt massage w/toys full body  
pleasure by boyish C.M.T 596-3377 <sup>E29</sup>

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**SOCCER JOCK**  
Lean, athletic body- top/vers  
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Do me at the hotel  
or do me in the sun  
open minded & have a big one  
when it blows it shoots like a gun  
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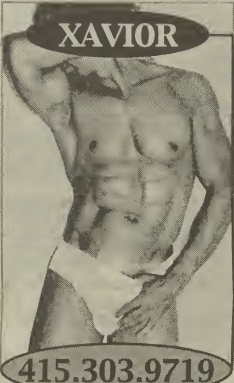
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6'2", 215#, 35 MUSCLE TOP  
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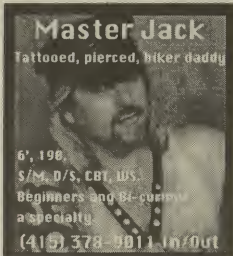
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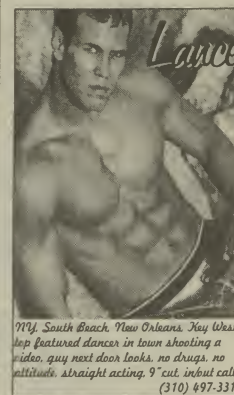
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COLT MODEL TYPE  
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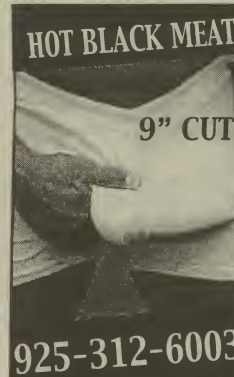
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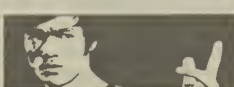
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